

**TOWN of  
MERRIMAC  
MASSACHUSETTS**



**2006**

**ANNUAL REPORT**





**ANNUAL REPORT**  
*of the*  
**OFFICERS, BOARDS**  
*and*  
**COMMITTEES**  
*of the*  
**TOWN OF MERRIMAC**  
**MASSACHUSETTS**

*For the Year Ending December 31, 2006*





*In*  
*Memory*  
*of those*  
*Who Have Held*  
*Public Office*  
*In the*  
*Town of Merrimac*

**Therese Walden**  
*Council on Aging*

**Nancy Stevens**  
*Board of Registrars*

**Maurice Carey**  
*Chief of Police 1965-1969*

## DIRECTORY OF ELECTED OFFICERS

### Moderator – *One Year*

Robert Bender

Term Expires 2007

### Board of Selectmen – *Three Years*

Carol A. Traynor

Term Expires 2009

Bonnie L. Collins

Term Expires 2008

Robert S. Sinibaldi, Chairperson

Term Expires 2007

### Board of Assessors – *Three Years*

Diane F. Cole

Term Expires 2007

Joyce E. Clohecy

Term Expires 2008

Edward R. Davis, Chairman

Term Expires 2009

### Planning Board – *Five Years*

Raymond L. Gingras

Term Expires 2010

Ricky Pinciario, Chairman

Term Expires 2008

Dennis Brodie

Term Expires 2011

John Thomas

Term Expires 2007

Sandy Venner

Term Expires 2009

Patricia True, Secretary

### Constables – *Three Years*

Arthur Evans

Term Expires 2007

Brian Peavey, Jr.

Term Expires 2007

James Seymour

Term Expires 2007

### Town Clerk – *Three Years*

Patricia True

Term Expires 2007

### Board of Health – *Three Years*

Eileen Hurley, Chairperson

Term Expires 2008

Ann Rundle

Term Expires 2007

David Libby

Term Expires 2007

### School Committee – *Three Years*

Tom Atwood

Term Expires 2007

Rich Baker

Term Expires 2006

Doreen Blade

Term Expires 2008

Guillaume Buell, Vice Chair

Term Expires 2008

Heather Connor

Term Expires 2007

Earl Baumgardner

Term Expires 2009

Lisa Dube-Carpenter

Term Expires 2006

Carol Grazio

Term Expires 2007

Jed Levine

Term Expires 2007

Phil Littlefield

Term Expires 2008

Maureen Moran

Term Expires 2008

Maria Piccolimini

Term Expires 2007

### **Library Trustees – *Three Years***

Susan M. Coburn	Term Expires 2006
Yvonne Cosgrove, Co Chair	Term Expires 2005
Ellen Evans, Co Chair	Term Expires 2007
Linda Getz	Term Expires 2008
Jennifer Brown	Term Expires 2009
Jeffrey W. Hoyt	Term Expires 2007

### **Park & Recreation Commissioners – *Five Years***

John Lusty, Chairman	Term Expires 2007
Scott Michelle	Term Expires 2011
Erick Kuchar	Term Expires 2009
Susan Marden	Term Expires 2010
Jay Soucy	Term Expires 2008

### **Municipal Light Commissioners – *Three Years***

Louis Bibeau	Term Expires 2009
Norman Denault	Term Expires 2008
Frederick Underwood, Chairman	Term Expires 2007

### **Municipal Water Commissioners – *Three Years***

Louis Bibeau	Term Expires 2009
Norman Denault	Term Expires 2008
Frederick Underwood, Chairman	Term Expires 2007

### **Cemetery Trustees – *Three Years***

Patricia Casey, Chairperson	Term Expires 2009
Elizabeth Emery, Clerk	Term Expires 2008
Gordon Rines	Term Expires 2007

### **Sewer Commissioners – *Three Years***

John Buzzell	Term Expires 2009
Michael Fall	Term Expires 2007
Richard Herbert, Chairman	Term Expires 2008

### **Merrimac Housing Authority – *Five Years***

Bette Elliot	Term Expires 2010
C. Shirley Jones	Term Expires 2011
Altha Ottman	Term Expires 2007
Geraldine Shephard, Vice Chairman & Gov. Appointed	Term Expires 2011
Stephen P. True, Vice Treasurer	Term Expires 2008

## DIRECTORY OF APPOINTED OFFICERS

### Finance Committee

John Cryan  
Patricia Dillon  
Alan Dunn, Chairman  
Krista Thorton  
Michael Baumert

Catherine Gabriel-Heusser  
Victor Quattrini  
Bob Daniels  
Tracy Cronin

### Board of Appeals

Arthur Amirault  
Gordon Broz, Alternate  
Ronald Dandurant  
Mark Townsend, Chairperson—through November 2006  
Joseph Moran, Chairperson—effective November 2006

Sean Scott  
Debra Weinhold, Secretary  
Joshua Jackson

### Conservation Commission

Timothy Simmons  
Jon Pearson  
Robert Prokop, Chairman  
Ellis Katz

Jay Smith, Agent  
Janet Terry  
Deborah Woodward  
Arthur Yarranton

### Building Inspector

Philip J. Hagopian

### Plumbing & Gas Inspector

Ronald Caruso

### Wiring Inspector

William Nutter

### Highway Department

Gunnar Sande, Foreman—retired September 2006  
Tom Barry, Foreman—effective September 2006

### Fire Department

Ralph W. Spencer, Chief

Greg Habgood, Deputy Chief

Larry Fisher, Deputy Chief

### Board of Registrars

Natalie Christie

Betty Elliot

Dorothy Whiting

### Town Counsel

Ashod N. Amirian

### Town Accountant

Debra A. McGrane

### Finance Director & Treasurer

Carol A. McLeod

### Tax Collector

Geraldine Gozycki



**Selectmen's Secretary**

Anne O. Jim—through September 2006

Lisa Pond—effective September 2006

**Rent Control Board**

Arthur Evans

Sandra Venner

Edward Madden

**Animal Care & Control Officer**

Madelyn Cirinna

**Cultural Council**

Gage Cogswell, Treasurer & Co Chair

Thelma Gibbs

Eleanor Hope-McCarthy, Secretary

Helen Koolian

Judy Flynn

Nancy Perkins

Hanna Trautmann

Deborah Webster

**Veteran's Agent**

Ronald D. Koontz

**Historical Commission**

James Hume

Patricia Casey

Jeffrey W. Hoyt

Emeritus Members: Walter Calnan, Evelyn Calnan

**Council on Aging**

Mary Cheney

Dorothy Cloyd

Laura Dillingham-Mailman, Director

Colleen Fiorello, Chairperson

Herb Gynan

David Dutton

Irene Kimbrell

Dorothy Lumsden, Secretary

Inez Lund

James Murphy

Victor Perrault

Nancy Bachelder

Carol Ranshaw, Treasurer

Terri Walden (January 2006)

**Emergency Management Director**

Ralph W. Spencer, Chief

**Open Space Committee**

Michelle Carley

Tom Graziano

Roy Rigor Da Eva

Deborah Woodward, Chairman

Donna Tierney

Sandra Venner

Nancy Perkins

Tracy Kelly

**Town Nurse**

Charlotte Eileen Stepanian

**Capital Planning Committee**

Michael Baumert, Finance Committee

Janet Bruno

Edward Madden

Sandra Venner, Chairperson

Carol A. Traynor, Selectman

*The Board of Selectman would like to thank all those who have served the town this past year, especially the ones who have retired or moved on*



**ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MERRIMAC BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
for the year ending December 31, 2006**

To the Citizens of Merrimac:

We are pleased to report that 2006 was a year of significant achievements by your Board of Selectmen. The management of our town has been reorganized and Carol McLeod has been named Finance Director with fiscal oversight responsibilities of internal town departments. This streamlining of our town departments is one measure taken by the BOS to insure continued fiscally responsible government. Additionally, the BOS has reviewed and ratified key elements of the Pentucket Regional School Agreement. Your BOS was instrumental in selecting the state preferred method of funding regional school districts, which will result in our school budget contribution being nearer to our ability to pay.

The Pentucket Regional School District recently elected a new superintendent, Dr. Paul Livingston. We look forward to Dr. Livingston's administration and supporting his efforts to maintain and enhance an effective school system through the collaborative effort and support of all the district's member towns.

The BOS has again utilized the Cable Educational Access Committee funds to increase the supply of personal computers at both the Donaghue and Sweetsir Schools.

The Merrimac Square project is progressing and was well received at a recent public hearing. Although we would like to see progress sooner, the current anticipated start date is sometime in 2009.

In December of 2006, the Sweetsir School building was connected to the town sewer system – a project that was considered to be very important by your BOS.

River Road in Merrimac was closed due to flooding. Damage was so extensive a portion of the road has been closed indefinitely, and we are working diligently with state and federal agencies to find funds to repair the road. In the interim the condition of Skunk Road was improved to handle the increase in traffic.

There are people who deserve special mention in this report.

We extend our warmest thanks and express the gratitude of the town to Angela Jervey, principal of the Sweetsir School, who is retiring this year. Angela has given many years of competent, dedicated service to Merrimac. We wish her a long, healthy, and happy retirement.

The BOS also extends its best wishes to Gunner Sande, retiring Highway Department Foreman, and pledges its support to his successor, Tom Barry. The BOS looks forward to working with Tom in the years ahead.

The BOS want to thank the volunteers, elected officials and department employees for all their efforts throughout 2006. A town is as good as the people who serve in it and you have insured us all that Merrimac will continue on as a first rate community of active and aware citizens.

Lastly, on a personal note, I'd like to thank the people of Merrimac for giving me the opportunity to serve them as Selectmen. It has always been my foremost intent to make each and every decision with the best interests of the town. I look forward to Merrimac's continued progress in the years ahead.

Respectfully Submitted,  
MERRIMAC BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Robert S. Sinibaldi, Chairman

Bonnie L. Collins, Clerk

Carol A. Traynor

## 2006 REPORT OF THE BOARD OF FIRE ENGINEERS

To: The Honorable Board of Selectmen & The Citizens of the Town of Merrimac

The Merrimac Fire Department once again has had a very busy year responding to 730 calls for the year 2006. That's 118 calls more than last year.

Training again has been at the top of our list for our firefighters with 4 members becoming Nationally Certified Firefighters. Gretchen Nolan, Jon Morrill, Robert Judson and Harry Ellis gave up six months of their time for this class put on by the Mass. Fire Academy. The class was made up of 40 firefighters from all over Essex County.

We now have 10 Certified Firefighters on the department.

In July the Board of Engineers reorganized and welcomed Greg Habgood as the 2nd Assistant Chief.

We received yet another grant for \$12,000 for new computer equipment and medical supplies. As of 2001 the department has received \$ 300,000 in grant money.

This past year we lost 2 veteran Firefighters to retirement Deputy Chief Norman Armstrong after 33 years of service. Also retiring was Cliff Judson after 25 years of service. They both will be missed. Congratulations to both of you.

This past year Lieutenant Harry Ellis past his test to become a Paramedic and is certified.

Also Firefighter / EMT David Sherwood past his Paramedic class and just needs to be tested through the State. Well done guys.

Lieutenant David Owens has been activated to the military and is currently in Oklahoma training as a Flight Engineer for the Air Force. Once finished there he will be heading overseas. We are very proud of him and wish him the best and for him to return to us safely.

The Merrimac Fire Department has joined the Town of Salisbury and the Cities of Amesbury and Haverhill in forming a regional dive team. This team has formed and has paid for all their dive equipment out of the members own pockets.

To our Firefighters & EMT'S again we thank you for all you do for the Town and the department.

To the Citizens of Merrimac, the Board of Engineers wishes to thank you for all your support and allowing us to bring you newer and better services.

To the Board of Selectman we want to thank you for all your help and support during this past year.

Respectfully Submitted  
The Board of Fire Engineers

Ralph W. Spencer  
Larry Fisher  
Greg Habgood



## MERRIMAC FIRE DEPARTMENT MEMBERS

Chief Ralph W. Spencer\*

Deputy Larry Fisher

Deputy Greg Habgood\*

Captain Mike Sloban

Captain James David

Captain Brian W. Peavey, Jr.\*

Captain Lester Smith

Lt. Mark Soucy\*

Lt. David Owens\*

Lt. Harry Ellis\*

Lt. Tim Carey

Acting Lt. Robert Judson Jr

### FIREFIGHTERS

Arthur Amirault

Wayne Armstrong

Tim Bean

Albert Berard

Kellie Briscoe\*

Steve Brown\*

Brandon Cox

Bruce Daniels\*

Thomas Flinn

Annette Hagopian\*

Robert Heusser\*

Richard Holcroft

James Hume

Thomas Jordan

Chris Judson

Cliff Judson

Mark Judson

Robert Judson, Sr.

Scott Maker\*

Michael McLeieer

Jon Morrill

Nick Motis

Gretchen Nolan

Patrick Noone

James Sevigny

Keith Sherman

David Sherwood\*

Kathy Spencer\*

Chris Stiles

Matt Swenson\*

Matt Thurlow

Lisa Young-Carey

\* EMT

# MERRIMAC FIRE DEPARTMENT INCIDENT REPORT 2006

<u>Incident Type</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Pct of Incidents</u>
<b>1 Fire</b>		
100 Fire, Other	1	0.13%
111 Building fire	9	1.23%
113 Cooking fire, confined to container	17	2.32%
114 Chimney or flue fire, confined to chimney	2	0.27%
116 Fuel burner/boiler malfunction, fire	1	0.13%
131 Passenger vehicle fire	3	0.41%
141 Forest, woods or wildland fire	1	0.13%
142 Brush or brush-and—grass mixture fire	5	0.68%
151 Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire	2	0.27%
154 Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle	1	0.13%
160 Special outside fire, Other	1	0.13%
162 Outside equipment fire	1	0.13%
	<b>44</b>	<b>6.02%</b>
<b>3 Rescue &amp; Emergency Medical Service Incident</b>		
311 Medical assist, assist EMS crew	2	0.27%
321 EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with	399	54.65%
322 Motor vehicle accident with injuries	28	3.83%
323 Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident (MV Ped)	1	0.13%
324 Motor Vehicle Accident with no injuries	16	2.19%
341 Search for person on land	1	0.13%
342 Search for person in water	1	0.13%
356 High-angle rescue	1	0.13%
361 Swimming/recreational water areas rescue	1	0.13%
	<b>450</b>	<b>61.64%</b>
<b>4 Hazardous Condition (No Fire)</b>		
411 Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill	3	0.41%
412 Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	13	1.78%
421 Chemical hazard (no spill or leak)	1	0.13%
424 Carbon monoxide incident	10	1.36%
442 Overheated motor	1	0.13%
444 Power line down	3	0.41%
445 Arcing, shorted electrical equipment	8	1.09%
471 Explosive, bomb removal (for bomb scare)	1	0.13%
	<b>40</b>	<b>5.47%</b>
<b>5 Service Call</b>		
500 Service Call, other	2	0.27%
510 Person in distress, Other	40	5.47%
511 Lock—out	1	0.13%
512 Ring or jewelry removal	1	0.13%

<u>Incident Type</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Pct of Incidents</u>
<b>5 Service Call <i>continued</i></b>		
520 Water problem, Other	17	2.32%
531 Smoke or odor removal	8	1.09%
550 Public service assistance, Other	3	0.41%
551 Assist police or other governmental agency	5	0.68%
552 Police matter	1	0.13%
553 Public service	1	0.13%
561 Unauthorized burning	1	0.13%
571 Cover assignment, standby, moveup	10	1.36%
	<b>90</b>	<b>12.32%</b>
<b>6 Good Intent Call</b>		
600 Good intent call, Other	6	0.82%
611 Dispatched & cancelled en route	44	6.02%
621 Wrong location	1	0.13%
622 No Incident found on arrival at dispatch	5	0.68%
651 Smoke scare, odor of smoke	2	0.27%
652 Steam, vapor, fog or dust thought to be	1	0.13%
	<b>59</b>	<b>8.08%</b>
<b>7 False Alarm &amp; False Call</b>		
712 Direct tie to FD, malicious false alarm	1	0.13%
721 Bomb scare - no bomb	1	0.13%
730 System malfunction, Other	3	0.41%
731 Sprinkler activation due to malfunction	1	0.13%
733 Smoke detector activation due to	17	2.32%
734 Heat detector activation due to malfunction	2	0.27%
735 Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	3	0.41%
736 CO detector activation due to malfunction	4	0.54%
740 Unintentional transmission of alarm, Other	1	0.13%
743 Smoke detector activation, no fire-	4	0.54%
744 Detector activation, no fire-	2	0.27%
745 Alarm system activation, no fire-	2	0.27%
746 Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO	2	0.27%
	<b>43</b>	<b>5.89%</b>
<b>8 Severe Weather &amp; Natural Disaster</b>		
815 Severe weather or natural disaster standby	1	0.13%
	<b>1</b>	<b>0.13%</b>
<b>9 Special Incident Type</b>		
900 Special type of incident, Other	3	0.41%
	<b>3</b>	<b>0.41%</b>
<b>Total Incident Count:</b>	<b>730</b>	



## REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

**Chief of Police**  
James A. Flynn, Jr.

**Sergeant**  
Eric M. Shears

### **Patrolmen**

Richard P. Holcroft  
Daniel A. Ross  
David J. Vance

Stephen M. Ringuette  
Charles W. Sciacca

### **Reserve Police Officers**

Stephen E. Beaulieu  
Edward A. Cardone, Jr.  
Arthur D. Evans  
Nathaniel B. Korpusik  
Michael R. McGrath  
David Riley  
Mark E. Sayers  
Edward Syvinski

Brian A. Cardone  
Benjamin A. Douglas  
Paul M. Hogg  
Chad L. Larson  
James T. Mikson  
Stephen A. Ringuette  
James M. Seymour

**Fire/Police Signal Operator/Clerk**  
Linda A. Seymour

### **Fire/Police Signal Operator/Dispatchers**

Bonnie J. Bishop  
Andrea M. Warchol

Mark E. Sayers

### **Part Time Fire/Police Signal Operator/Dispatchers**

Michael O. McLeieer  
Stephen A. Ringuette

Brian W. Peavey, Jr.  
Kathy A. Spencer

### **Matrons**

Bonnie J. Bishop  
Linda A. Seymour  
Andrea M. Warchol

Annette Hagopian  
Kathy A. Spencer

**Reserve Police Officer For Details Only**  
Brian W. Peavey, Sr.

**Honorary Police Officers**  
Sergeant Alfred Nichols

Robert Adams

Richard G. Noone

Alan Hassig

The men and women of the Merrimac Police Department wish to thank the citizens and Town Boards for their continued support throughout the year and for their interest in our important initiatives. We look forward to serving you in the coming year.

Respectfully Submitted,

James A. Flynn, Jr.  
Chief of Police

## POLICE DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES FOR 2006

General Services . . . . .	1,863
Robbery . . . . .	2
Assault & Battery . . . . .	13
Breaking & Entering . . . . .	46
Larceny . . . . .	53
Stolen Motor Vehicles . . . . .	8
Recovered Stolen Motor Vehicles . . . . .	9
Assault . . . . .	1
Vandalism . . . . .	92
Weapons Violation . . . . .	2
Drug Law Violation . . . . .	1
Intoxicated Driver Complaints . . . . .	17
Restraining Order Violations . . . . .	1
Field Investigations . . . . .	77
General Offenses . . . . .	2
Trespassing Complaints . . . . .	9
Civil Complaints . . . . .	2
Juvenile Offenses . . . . .	73
Local Ordinance Violations . . . . .	45
Missing Persons . . . . .	8
Lost & Found . . . . .	83
General Disturbances . . . . .	38
Family Disturbances . . . . .	45
Gathering Disturbances . . . . .	57
Youths in Street . . . . .	17
Noise Complaints . . . . .	55
Annoying Phone Call Complaints . . . . .	23
Suspicious Activity . . . . .	212
Boating Complaints . . . . .	1
Officers Wanted . . . . .	810
Escorts . . . . .	3
Assist Citizens . . . . .	195
Transfer Assist . . . . .	13
Breakdown Assist . . . . .	8
Building Checks . . . . .	1,217
Message Deliveries . . . . .	157
Animal Complaints . . . . .	245
Assist Municipal Agencies . . . . .	247
Highway Department . . . . .	64
Light Department . . . . .	74
Water Department . . . . .	38
State Highway Department . . . . .	11
Sewer Department . . . . .	60
Utility Alarm . . . . .	3
Ambulance . . . . .	418
Medical/Mental Emergencies . . . . .	15
Suicide Emergencies . . . . .	3
Fire Alarms . . . . .	190
Burglar Alarms . . . . .	197

Assist Other Police Departments . . . . .	160
Traffic Stops . . . . .	1,247
Radar Assignments . . . . .	18
Speeding Complaints . . . . .	9
Leaving the Scene of an Accident (Property Damage) . . . . .	11
Vehicle Accidents (Personal Injury) . . . . .	16
Vehicle Accidents . . . . .	83
Traffic Control . . . . .	17
Abandoned Motor Vehicles . . . . .	3
Intra-Department Services . . . . .	8
District Court . . . . .	67
Superior Court . . . . .	1
Servicing Cruiser . . . . .	8
Vehicle Pursuits . . . . .	1
Summons Served . . . . .	22
Citations Issued . . . . .	434

### ARRESTS FOR THE YEAR 2006

Male Residents . . . . .	20
Male Non-Residents . . . . .	26
Female Residents . . . . .	6
Female Non-Residents . . . . .	7

#### Juveniles

Male Residents . . . . .	3
Male Non-Residents . . . . .	2
Female Residents . . . . .	7

### PROTECTIVE CUSTODY FOR THE YEAR 2006

Male Residents . . . . .	2
Male Non-Residents . . . . .	2
Female Residents . . . . .	1
Female Non-Residents . . . . .	1

Respectfully Submitted,

James A. Flynn, Jr.  
Chief of Police



## **MERRIMAC DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES 2006 ANNUAL REPORT**

What follows is the annual report from The Department of Veterans' Services.

### **COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER 115 BENEFITS**

This department was able to assist veterans or family members this past year under Chapter 115

#### **VETERANS DAY**

Thanks to the efforts of the Roger Clark and the American Legion of Merrimac, Veterans Day was recognized on November 11, 2006

#### **MEMORIAL DAY FLAGS**

Again, thanks to the efforts of Roger Clark and the American Legion, veterans' graves and memorials were appropriately decorated this year.

#### **VETERANS PREFERENCE IN HOUSING**

Assisted in securing and maintaining quality housing mandated by federal guidelines for elder and disabled veterans and their families.

#### **VA COMPENSATION**

This department continues to assist and secure various VA benefits -- service connected and non-service connected -- disability compensations and pensions.

#### **VA HEALTH CARE**

This department assisted and secured various VA medical benefits for service and non-service connected veterans. These medical benefits included short and long-term medical treatments at the VA Clinic in Haverhill and VA Hospitals in the VISN (Veterans Integrated Service Network) area. Included are the \$8.00 co-payments for various drug prescriptions for all veterans.

#### **SOCIAL SECURITY**

This department continues to assist and refer veterans seeking benefits from Social Security.

### **COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

#### **Welcome Home Bill**

Working closely with Sen. Steven A. Baddour and Rep. Harriet L. Stanley, legislation was signed by Governor Mitt Romney that expands benefits to veterans, members of the Massachusetts National Guard and their families.

Below is the substance of the bill.

Exempts Guard members from paying any fees while attending a Massachusetts public college or university. Already, they receive free tuition, but fees can account for as much as three quarters of the cost of a college education. The state, not the schools, will pay for the cost of the waivers;

- Increases the death benefit paid to families of Guard members killed in the line of duty from \$5,000 to \$100,000;
- Establishes a check-off on the state tax form to help members of the Guard and armed forces reserves called to active duty after September 11, 2001 and their families defray the costs of food, housing, utilities, medical services and other expenses;

- Increases the per diem compensation that Guard members receive while on state active duty from \$75 to \$100;
- Provides that the state pay half the monthly life insurance premiums for Guard members;
- Creates a new \$2,000 benefit for Gold Star spouses and increases the Gold Star parents' benefit from \$1,500 to \$2,000;
- Provides a \$1,000 bonus to Massachusetts servicemen and women who have served on active duty post-9/11 in Afghanistan or Iraq and a \$500 bonus to those who serve at least six months on active duty in other locations;
- Grants high school diplomas to veterans who left school for good upon being drafted or enlisting in World War II, Korea or Vietnam wars.

The Welcome Home Bill and the "Definition of a Veterans" bill passed a few years ago are two of the most significant pieces of legislation to affect veterans in 30 years.

The Definition of a Veteran Bill states; for the first time ever, those veterans who served from 1948-1950 and from 1975 to 1990 are entitled to the same state benefits the rest of the Commonwealths veterans are entitled too.

Both Representative Mike Costello in the House and Senator Steve Baddour in the Senate are to be congratulated for their persistence and dedication for veterans rights.

**Since 9-11, over 29,000 new veterans have been discharge from Massachusetts.**

## Welcome Home

### 1st Lt. Derek S. Hines September 1, 2005

I was honored to attend the signing of legislation that renamed the former Essex-Merrimac connecting bridge between Amesbury and Newburyport after 1st Lt. Derek S. Hines, 25 who was killed in Afghanistan on September 1, 2005. Derek lived in both Amesbury and Newburyport, before attending West Point.

This is a list of Massachusetts service members killed in action in Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, as of July 24, 2006. Their names are listed alphabetically by their hometown.



#### Operation Iraqi Freedom—Iraq

Sgt Charles Caldwell (USA National Guard) – Attleboro  
 LCpl Travis Desiato (USMC) – Bedford  
 PFC John D. Hart (USA) – Bedford  
 WO3 Kyran E. Kennedy (USA) – Boston  
 LCpl John J. Vangyzen (USMC) – Bristol  
 Cpl Donald E. Fisher II (USA) – Brockton  
 LCpl Shayne M. Cabino (USMC) – Canton  
 Cpl Andrew Zabierek (USMC) – Chelmsford  
 Capt. John W. Maloney (USMC) – Chicopee  
 SPC Peter G. Enos (USA) – Dartmouth  
 Sgt Gregory Belanger (USA Reserve) – Deerfield  
 Sgt Daniel J. Londono (USA) – Dorchester  
 SPC Matthew Boule (USA) – Dracut  
 Sgt Mark Vecchione (USA) – Eastham  
 LCpl Patrick J. Gallagher (USMC) – Fairhaven  
 PVT Michael E. Bouthot (USA) – Fall River  
 LCpl Geoffrey Cayer (USMC) – Fitchburg  
 LCpl Shayne M. Cabino (USMC) – Franklin

SSG Darren J. Cunningham (USA) – Groton  
 1stLt Travis J. Fuller (USMC) – Hampden  
 LCpl Dimitrios Gavriel (USMC) – Haverhill  
 LCpl Nickolas D. Schiavoni (USMC) – Haverhill  
 Sgt Pierre A. Raymond (USAR) – Lawrence  
 SPC Christopher Holland (USA) – Lunenburg  
 SPC Gabriel T. Palacios (USA) – Lynn  
 Cpl David Marques Vicente (USMC) – Methuen  
 PFC Norman Darling (USA) – Middleboro  
 Gy Sgt Elia P. Fontecchio (USMC) – Milford  
 SSG Joseph Camara (USA National Guard) – New Bedford  
 LCpl Michael Ford (USMC) – New Bedford  
 WO2 Stephen M. Wells (USA) – North Egremont  
 Capt Joel E. Cahill (USA) – Norwood  
 1st Lt Brian McPhillips (USMC) – Pembroke  
 Sgt Glenn R. Allison (USA) – Pittsfield  
 LCpl Jeffrey Burgess (USMC) – Plymouth  
 Capt Christopher J. Sullivan (USA), Princeton  
 LCpl Alexander Scott Arrendondo – (USMC) – Randolph



### Operation Iraqi Freedom—Iraq

Cpl Brian Oliveira (USMC) – Raynham  
Capt Benjamin Sammis (USMC) – Rehoboth  
SPC Daniel F. Cunningham (USA) – Revere  
Sgt Benjamin E. Mejia (USA) – Salem (*died from on-combat related causes*)  
Cpl Scott Procopio (USMC) – Saugus  
PFC Markus J. Johnson (USA) – Springfield

WO1 Erik Halvorsen (USA) – Sturbridge  
Sgt Justin Garvey (USA) – Townsend  
Cpl Paul N. King (USMC) – Tyngsboro  
SSG Joseph P. Bellavia (USA) – Wakefield  
Sgt Andrew K. Farrar, Jr. (USMC) – Weymouth  
PFC Kerry Scott (USA) – Worcester, MA  
LCpl Gregory E. MacDonald (USMC Reserve) – address not released



### Operation Enduring Freedom—Afghanistan

SFC Daniel H. Petithory (USA) – Cheshire  
PFC Evan W. O'Neil (USA) – Haverhill  
Capt Seth R. Michaud (USMC) – Hudson  
SSgt Christopher N. Piper (USA) – Marblehead  
1st Lt Derek S. Hines (USA) – Newburyport

Capt. Davis S. Connolly (USAR) – Newton  
SFC Jared C. Monti (USA) – Raynham  
SPC Michael Kelley (USA National Guard) – Scituate  
PO1 Brian J. Ouelette (USN) – Waltham  
Sgt Theodore L. Perreault (USA) – Webster  
PFC Brian M. Moquin, Jr. (USA) – Worcester



### Civilian Casualties (former active duty veterans)

Steven Eric Sullivan (Diplomatic Security, USMC, USN) –  
Westborough (Iraq)

## About THE MOVING WALL™

July 18, 2005 to July 25, 2005

“The Moving Wall” is the original half-size replica of the Washington, DC Vietnam Veterans Memorial and has been touring the country for over twenty years. When John Devitt attended the 1982 dedication in Washington, he felt the positive power of “The Wall.” He vowed to share that experience with those who did not have the opportunity to go to Washington.

“The Moving Wall” visited from July 18, 2005 to July 25, 2005 at the James J. Landry Memorial Stadium. William B. Justin is Amesbury’s only casualty during the war. 58,228 names of men and women on “The Wall.”

Thousand of people were able to experience the tribute to our young men and women who died during the Vietnam War.

We dedicate “The Moving Wall” to Jim McLane, a Vietnam Veteran who helped bring “the Wall” to this area. Sadly, Jim passed away before he himself was able to witness “The Wall.”

Thank all of you who give so tirelessly to help bring the “The Wall” here. Thank you for your donations and all of your hard work.

On a personal note, as State Commander of the Military Order of Purple Heart, I was honored to represent Merrimac and Massachusetts at the National Congressional Testimony Hearings in both House and Senate in Washington DC. I also met and talked with Senator Kennedy and Senator Kerry on local veteran issues.

All expenses were paid by MOPH.

Thank you,

Ronald D. Koontz, MSW



## PENTUCKET REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

This Merrimac Annual Report of the School Department activities for FY06 has been developed by the Principals of the Dr. Frederick N. Sweetsir School, Helen R. Donaghue School, Pentucket Regional Middle School and Pentucket Regional High School on behalf of the Superintendent of Schools and the Pentucket Regional School Committee.

Thomas Atwood, Chairman  
Guillaume Buell, Vice Chairman  
Maria Piccolomini, Assistant Treasurer  
Carol Grazio, Secretary  
Doreen Blades  
Lisa Dube Carpenter  
Richard Baker  
Charles P. Littlefield  
Heather Conner  
Valerie Corradino  
Maureen Moran  
Jed Levine

## Dr. Frederick N. Sweetsir • Helen R. Donaghue Schools

It is a pleasure to submit our annual report for the Dr. Fredrick N. Sweetstr School and the Helen R. Donaghue School for the 2005-2006 school year. During 2005-2006 we worked toward the School Committee's mission to "ensure that all students discover and develop their talents and abilities to their highest potential, strive for academic excellence, acquire respect for self and others, and obtain the knowledge and skills to succeed and contribute as ethical, responsible citizens."

Our school year began with the fifth annual, "Merrimac Goes Back to School Day" to celebrate the opening of school. Families had an opportunity to visit classrooms, meet teachers and obtain information about the school, community, and PTO. The October 1, 2005 enrollment was 358 students in grades Preschool through grade 2 at the Dr. Sweetsir School and 415 in grades 3 through 6 at the Helen R. Donaghue School.

The School Councils for the Dr. Sweetsir and Helen R. Donaghue Schools conducted a parent survey in April 2006. Parents identified small class size and maintaining highly qualified teachers in the classrooms as the two top priorities for the schools. The overall results of the survey were very positive. Based on these survey results, the councils developed the following School Improvement Plan goals to focus on during the 2005-2006 year:

- Meet the performance goals for the entire student body and all sub groups as defined by the Department of Education accountability system and *No Child Left Behind* mandates.
- Create and maintain a safe, orderly and secure school environment that supports students' learning and development.

New initiatives in the schools this year included Second Step, a comprehensive social skills development program, implementation of a tuition based full-day kindergarten option for parents, and purchase of materials for Social Studies instruction in grades 3 and 6. Additionally, the schools purchased current maps and globes for all classrooms. Teachers in the elementary grades in Merrimac again joined their colleagues in Groveland and West Newbury to continue working on the curriculum-mapping project. This project will result in clear outlines of what the schools expect students to learn each year, a sequence for teaching these things, and a consistent plan for assessing how well students have learned, understood, and can use these things. Curriculum brochures will be published in early 2007.

Students in Grades 3, 4, 5, and 6 again took tests as part of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS). Students in all of these grades took tests in English Language Arts/Reading and Mathematics. The percentage of students scoring at the proficient or advanced level declined from the previous year in Grade 3 Reading and Grade 4 English Language Arts and Mathematics.

At grade 6, the percentage of students scoring in the proficient or advanced level on the Mathematics test decreased slightly from the previous year. This was the first year that students in grades 3 and 5 took the Mathematics test, and the first year that students in grades 5 and 6 took the English Language Arts/Reading test, so no comparisons with previous years is possible.

As part of the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) education reform initiative, all schools are expected to help their students to become proficient in reading, writing and mathematics by 2014. In Massachusetts, the MCAS results are used to measure each school's progress toward this goal. The state measures how well the entire student population is progressing toward the goal of 100% proficiency, as well as how well individual subgroups, such as socio-economic groups and students receiving special education services, are progressing toward the performance goal. The Helen R. Donaghue School met the states expectations for Annual Yearly Progress in both English Language Arts and Mathematics for the entire student population. We fell short in helping students receiving special education services meet the improvement goal in both Mathematics and English Language Arts. The curriculum initiatives and staff work on using assessments are intended to help teachers effectively teach students to the level expected on the state examinations. The staff will also use the MCAS results, in conjunction with other measures of student learning, to identify individual students who need additional instructional support in the schools and to provide them this support so they can learn and perform at a higher level.



The Destination Imagination Program at the Donaghue School helped participating students develop creative and critical thinking through group problem solving. One team participated in the local tournament in the spring of 2006. The program relies on parents to volunteer as coaches and assistants.

Once again, the PTO purchased a variety of educational resources for the schools. These included: LCD projectors, routers, musical instruments, science equipment, reading writing centers, glass enclosed bulletin boards, magnifier lights for the health offices, reading assessment materials, computer software, walking club and indoor recess supplies, and an interactive whiteboard. The PTO also organized After School Exploration programs, presented a PTO scholarship to a graduating senior, coordinated teacher appreciation events, planned family fun nights, produced a student yearbook, and supported our classroom programs by volunteering in our schools every day. In addition, the PTO sponsored the following cultural arts programs:

- Wing Masters "Birds of Prey"
- Annawon Weeden
- Seacoast Science Center trip
- Plimoth Plantation
- Fun With Pyramids and Pharaohs
- Grade 6 buses for A Christmas Carol
- Discovery Museum
- Ellen Goethel — Explore the Ocean
- Curious Creatures
- "Star Lab" - Museum of Science
- Ben Franklin
- Grade 6 buses for Nature's Classroom

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the PTO for their outstanding commitment to the children of Merrimac. We continue to encourage and foster a strong home-school-community partnership through our monthly newsletters, parent volunteer program, curriculum information nights, sponsor-a-classroom program, and the Holiday Helper Program.

Our Before and After School Program and continued to provide services to over 80 children daily.

In closing, the staff of the Dr. Frederick N. Sweetsir School and the Helen R. Donaghue School wishes to extend its appreciation to members of the Merrimac community for their support throughout the year. We value public education and believe it is the cornerstone of our community, and a major resource for enhancing the quality of life for our current and future citizens.

We would like to acknowledge the service of the following staff members who retired in June 2006:

Linda Gilmartin, a second grade teacher who enthusiastically instilled a love of learning in the children she taught. Lois Cimmino, a kindergarten teacher who brought many wonderful learning opportunities to the kindergarten children in her class. Roy Campbell, a long-time sixth grade teacher, who prepared students well for higher mathematics education through his work with them in the classroom. Martha Shannahan, third grade teacher, who brought the love of reading and learning to her students. Ellen Colburn, media professional at both the Dongahue and Sweetsir Schools, who developed and fostered a life-long appreciation of literature and reading.

The Merrimac school community will long remember the contributions these teachers made through the years. We wish them the best in their retirement years.

Angela B. Jervey  
Principal  
Dr. Frederick N. Sweetsir School

Robert C. Harrison  
Principal  
Helen R. Donaghue School



## Pentucket Regional Middle School

The following reflect notable events / changes at the Middle School:

1. We continue to maintain a number of links added to our website which provide parents, community members and other interested public parties with an excellent source of communication related to virtually all aspects of the middle school. Included on our website are links pertaining to activities / events, school lunches, calendars, curriculum maps, student homework (Homework Now), Ed. Line (providing secure access for parents and students to the teacher electronic rankbook which is upgraded each week). Parents are automatically e-mailed through the program whenever teachers make a change or addition to the rankbook. It is detailed to the extent that parents know which assignments have and have not been turned in along with up-to-date grades and averages. On our Homepage we have "Library Spots" and "Great Websites" which provide students with numerous websites to facilitate research. Other sites are also made available for the purpose of offering study skills assistance. Of note this year will be links to parental and student support as it pertains to the implementation of our new mathematics program CMP II
2. As we had provided new computers for our Computer Lab, we had taken those previously used in the lab and placed them in classrooms to increase the number of available student workstations. Those computers have been installed with upgraded programs. This continues to be an annual task. These tools are vital as support mechanisms for curriculum delivery and for the purpose of addressing various student learning styles. Another goal, this year, is to continue the process of providing teachers with "Smart Boards." This equipment allows for use of DVD's and interactive programs along with manipulation of the teacher computer screen with internet connection which is displayed to all students in the classroom. The "Smart Board" which looks like a "White Board" can be touched and manipulated just as one would their own computer screen. This item significantly intensifies the teaching and learning experience. As this piece of technology plays a very important roll as a component of the new Connected Mathematics Program II priority for use of new purchases will be provided to our math teachers.
3. The Community Service Team, which was begun four years ago, continues to grow as we have become engaged with a wider variety of community agencies. We have been averaging 70-80 students per year. This is reflective of those who remain with the program and fulfill all their obligations.
4. The remainder of our co-curricular activities continue-to remain strong and we continue to develop a variety of opportunities from which students may choose: art club, intra-murals that are seasonappropriate, tennis, and numerous performing arts clubs including strings and percussion instruction. We are expecting a significant impact on these programs this year as late busses have been reinstated
5. We continue to work on maintaining impetus as it pertains to curriculum development and adjustment. We continue to be engaged in a 7 - 12 initiative to bring mathematics instruction more in line with NCTM and TIMSS Study recommendations (upon which are based our state standards). The elementary schools have adopted a curriculum to address those recommendations and the middle school continues to be engaged in the text series selection process which will result in smooth transition from the elementary curriculum to the middle as it pertains to methods of teaching Math (a more integrated approach) and sequence of content. We are please to announce that text selection was completed last year and we are in the process of implementing the CMP II Math Program. This program is the only program that has been deemed exemplary by the U.S. Department of Education. It was developed by Michigan State University.
6. Due to the special needs of elementary students entering the middle school, we continue to expand our complement of "Phonic Ear" amplification systems for both grade levels and Special Education programs.



7. We have had a dramatic increase in the number of various learning disabilities with which we must contend and had added to our programs (Functional Skills and Language Based Learning Center) a new program called Resource Academic Intervention (RAI) that is designed to assist students whose overall functioning is significantly below grade level. This program continues to be a viable and integral addition to our special needs services. As there continues to be students qualifying for this program, it is continued for this academic year.
8. We completed the process of having a new roof installed over the -middle school. We continue to have no leaks. We will within the next few weeks complete the process of replacing damaged ceiling tiles.
9. We did have the entire school calibrated as part of a computer controlled heat management system. Though we still grapple with the need to replace a number of valves that have "frozen", a costly project; the upgrades to our heating system have resulted in a savings of 100 gallons of oil per day during heating season. It is unfortunate that said budgetary savings have been, in a way, offset by the significant increase in cost of fuel. We are currently soliciting quotes from vendors to remedy this issue during the current heating season.

Renzo Binagi, Principal  
Pentucket Regional Middle School

### **Pentucket Regional High School**

The high school continues to work on fulfilling the recommendations made by the NEASC visiting team in March of 2002. All high schools must complete this process every ten years in order to maintain their accreditation. The Commission on Public and Secondary Schools has voted to continue Pentucket's accreditation. We are however, required to complete a Five Year Report in March 2007.

As we continue to focus on becoming a mission driven school, all aspects of student learning are driven by our goal of fostering academic excellence, civic responsibility and social awareness by providing students with a strong foundation of knowledge and skills as well as developing a life long quest for learning. We have set high expectations for student learning and will be using data from a variety of sources as well as a variety of assessment practices to insure that all students are learning. Our goals this year are to continue to review and evaluate our curriculum maps K-12, review and evaluate our assessment practices particularly in English Language Arts, Mathematic and Science, continue to implement our five year technology plan and to provide a professional development plan for our staff that improves student achievement.

Despite the continuation of a fee structure for extra-curricular activities and athletics, our programs continue to be very strong with high student participation. Our concern is that many students may be opting out of participation due to financial difficulties. We have tried our best to insure that all students have access to athletics and extra-curricular activities but our fees are the higher than many of the surrounding communities. However, participation in both the fall and spring remain constant. Approximately 87 percent of our students participate in our extracurricular and athletic activities. There has been a significant decrease in participation in some winter sports.

Class sizes have increased especially in our eleventh and twelfth grade classes. We have made a commitment to provide smaller class sizes in our ninth and tenth grade classes. Budget cuts have limited the number of course offerings but we have not eliminated any courses from the current program of studies. Preferences for elective course have been given to seniors and juniors. Most ninth grade students have a directed study for one semester.

We have continued our ninth grade team approach to ease the transition from eighth to ninth grade. Students in grade nine are divided into two teams and the teams share the same teachers for English, Math, Science and Social Studies. We have added a Special Education teacher on each of the teams. Teachers in each team meet to discuss and share ideas during a



common planning time. We have continued our Peer Mentoring Program. Sixty-six eleventh and twelfth grade students trained over this summer and have monthly mentoring programs with every ninth grade student. Each mentor has three to four ninth grade students they are responsible for mentoring over the school year. Mentoring topics include: time management, stress, setting goals and making positive choices. We believe that both of these initiatives along with Peer Tutoring and Peer Mediation will insure a smoother transition to high school. We are also piloting an Inclusion model for Special Education in our ninth grade classes. Special Education teachers are working along side regular education teachers to provide support within each discipline.

Our Fine and Performing Arts students continue to be recognized for their outstanding achievements in all of the arts throughout the state. The Jazz Combo won first place in state competitions last year. Our theatre arts program has been selected to participate in the State Spotlight Competition this spring. The Community Service Team has grown with over 400 students volunteering thousands of hours in a wide variety of community service projects that include the Boys and Girls Club in Salisbury, volunteering at the Page School's Apple Harvest, cleaning up along the Merrimack River and helping with Feline Rescue. Our students continue to learn how important it is to give back to the community in which they live. These are valuable life lessons that will enrich their lives and the lives of the people they touched with their community service. The Science Team placed second in the North Shore Science League last year. This year they are going for the gold!

Our MCAS scores continue to place our students in the top percentages statewide. The Class of 2007 scored 98% passing on the first try of the English Language Arts, 90% scored in the Proficient and Advanced categories and 94% passed the Mathematics with 80% scoring the Proficient and Advanced categories. 100% of the class of 2007 has passed the MCAS exam. Our SAT and Advanced Placement scores continue to place Pentucket above the national and state averages.

The members of the Class of 2006 were admitted to competitive colleges and post secondary programs that indicate that our courses are rigorous and prepare our students for the world outside of Pentucket High School.

#### 2005 PENTUCKET GRADUATES

Alexander, Daniel	Frasca, Michael	Masia, Elisabetta	Robinson, Andrew
Auclair, Ashley	Gadd, Phaelan	McGoldrick, Matthew	Sawicki, Caleigh
Bennett, Harry	Garrett-Levine, Jeremiah	McKallagat, Alyssa	Schweizer, John
Bixby, Meaghan	George, Christopher	Melville, Stephen	Shackleton, Nikki
Brindamour, Erika	Gilmore, Richard	Merrill, Seth	Shaffer, Megan
Lisle, Buckley	Goodwin, Marianne	Miller, Damion	Shelley, Sarah
Cahill Meghan	Gore, Jon	O'Donnell, Karina	Sloban, Ashley
Cantone, Bethany	Groder, Benjamin	O'Hara, Andrew	Sweeney, Nicole
Castiglione, Anthony	Harville, Nicholas	ONeil, Brittany	Szabo, Emily
Cleaver, Victoria	Herbert, Derek	Parker, Corey	Tarrant, Kayla
Condon, Stephanie	Kaufman, Jason	Parker, Timothy	Tribble, Adam
Consigli, Robyn	Koolian, Michelle	Pettoruto, Mary	Valli, Matthew
Cross, Jeremy	Kowalewski, Brittany	Poskus, Stephanie	Vassy, William
Curtis, Daniel	Lamar, Gemma	Powell, Jessica	Walker, Shawn
Deuplisea, Renee	Larson, Stephanie	Price, Maureen	Ward, Kimberly
Dewolf, Elizabeth	Lay, Alexandra	Puzak, Jessica	Williams, Michael
Dombrowski, Nicole	Ledoux, Christopher	Rancourt, Margaret	Yuskaitis, Emily
Dow, Kerri	Lydston, Farren	Rhuda, James	
Fontaine, David	Maguire, Jennifer	Roberts, Matthew	



## ANNUAL REPORT OF WHITTIER REGIONAL VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

To: The Honorable Board of Selectmen  
From: Paul Tucker, Whittier Representative  
Karen Sarkisian, Superintendent

Whittier offers 19 vocational technical career areas designed to provide the necessary training and skills for personal and work force success.

Whittier's academic program is designed to offer students a broad base in fundamental skills through its core curriculum in English, Math, Science and Technology, Social Studies, World Languages, Physical Education/Health, and Elective subjects and to afford students with varying abilities the opportunity to succeed.

Courses are designed in a sequential format and are integrated with the vocational-technical areas, wherever practicable and mutually beneficial. All academic courses offer advanced sections for students who desire to further their education. Moreover, a Tech Prep program is offered to eleventh and twelfth grade students which parallels the College Prep program and provides students with the opportunity for college credit and/or advanced college placement.

Since all programs are open to both females and males, we encourage our students to explore and to specialize in non-stereotyped, non-traditional vocational-technical areas and to strive for the maximum realization of their goals and potential.

Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School is entering its thirty-fourth year. To date we have graduated 8,156 students from the day school.

The enrollment for the Evening School from Merrimac: 36.

The October 1, 2005 Day School Enrollment:

	Boys	Girls
Grade 9	5	1
Grade 10	1	3
Grade 11	8	1
Grade 12	6	5

Total — 30

2006 Graduates—11

The cost to Merrimac for the school year 2005-2006 was \$379,328.00.

Respectfully yours,

Paul M. Tucker  
Merrimac Representative

Karen Sarkisian  
Superintendent

**ANNUAL REPORT  
BOARD of TRUSTEES  
MERRIMAC PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
For the year ending December 31, 2006

To the citizens of Merrimac:

Merrimac Public Library has experienced another year of unparalleled growth and improvement during the year 2006. There has been measured progress in many vital areas—the frequency and diversity of patron use, materials circulation, staff development, long-range planning, policy revision, and utilization of the facility by the extended community. The trustees are also pleased to report that the “growing pains” of adjustment to our new and commodious building are beginning to subside.

The best single example of continued growth in library usage can be drawn from the meeting room. In 2005 the room was used 156 times; in 2006 that number grew to 295—an increase of 53%! Most noteworthy among those uses in 2006 has been the Town Clerk’s deployment of the facility for all municipal elections. Concomitant with the increased use of the meeting room has been the creation and adoption of a Meeting Room Use Policy. The trustees are confident that we have put in place a policy that is fair, equitable, and efficient. Looking forward, the trustees are currently working to update and improve our policies on internet use and the issue of privacy.

Working under the direction of the Northeastern Massachusetts Regional Library System, the trustees of Merrimac Public Library have embarked on putting together a five year Long Range Plan. The process is lengthy and extensive. Many community representatives have volunteered to assist. The results will not only give the library valuable guidelines for the near future but will also qualify the community for grant applications.

The library Building Committee has had a successful year of bringing closure to this long and challenging project. Resolution to a complex temperature and humidity control problem in the Special Collections Room has been their last major hurdle. Again, we are especially grateful to David Kern and Mark Hebenstreit for their tireless labors on this committee. The tax paying citizens of Merrimac will be pleased to know that because of the excellent management and oversight of the library construction project by the Building Committee and the Library Trustees, more than \$100,000 will be returned to the town for use on other capital projects.

Regretfully, there is one piece of unfinished and important business regarding the library construction project. Proper sidewalks connecting the new library facility to down town are sorely needed and present a very important safety hazard. We implore the Board of Selectmen and all community leaders to join with us in addressing this issue in a timely fashion. We believe the matter to be important enough to merit individual and immediate attention.

There have been several staff and trustee changes during the year. In September, long-time assistant children’s librarian Sandy Driscoll retired after many years of devoted service. A gala reception was held in her honor on September 28th. Susan Hebenstreit chose not to stand for re-election this year. Jennifer Brown was elected to fill the opening. As we thank Susan for her years of service we welcome Jennifer and wish her a long and fruitful tenure.



As in the past, we wish to thank the Friends of the Library for all of their help during the year. We also extend our appreciation to our many faithful volunteers.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Susan Coburn & Ellen Evans, Co-Chairs

LIBRARY REPORT

Welcome to the library! Come in and “check out” the great resources. Browse through the large selection of newspapers; you can spread them out on the table or relax and read in a comfortable chair. We have 113 magazines for adults, teens and children, public computers, books on CD and tape, an extensive collection of large-print books and 1,025 DVDs with new titles added monthly. We also have passes to the Museum of Science in Boston, the Museum of Fine Arts, The New England Aquarium (Sept-June) and the Portsmouth Children’s Museum. We even have a pass for free parking at Massachusetts State Parks.

The Community Meeting Room is becoming very popular for civic and municipal programs. The room is used for Town voting, workshops, scout troop meetings, blood drives, Friends’ book sales, softball registrations, art and exercise classes, Town department meetings and hearings and a variety of other programs.

Items Checked Out . . . . .	55,184
Public Use Computers . . . . .	13
Wireless coverage . . . . .	100%
Hours open weekly . . . . .	40
Days open weekly . . . . .	6
# of Staff working 35 hours . . . . .	2
# of Staff working 30 hours or less . . . . .	3
Volunteer hours weekly. . . . .	23
Meeting Room bookings . . . . .	295
Total Library holdings . . . . .	33,442
Supplementary Collection holdings* . . . . .	7,190
Children’s Programs . . . . .	105

\* NMRLS Supplementary Collection is housed at the Library and its many large print books, audio books on CD and Tape, and Junior books are available for Merrimac citizens to check out.

I would like to thank the Friends of the MPL for their continued support with children’s programs and museum passes. Likewise, I thank the volunteers for their diligence and loyalty.

Respectfully Submitted,  
  
Martina Follansbee  
Library Director



**TOWN OF MERRIMAC**  
**INSPECTIONAL SERVICES**  
 2 SCHOOL STREET • MERRIMAC, MA 01860  
 PH. (978) 346-0525 FAX (978) 346-0522

**2006 ANNUAL REPORT**

BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED	CALENDAR YEAR		+/-	
	2006	2005		
New 1+2 Family Dwellings (R4)	16	13	3	
Residential: Addition/Remodel	177	162	15	
Accessory Building/Barn/Detached Garage	3	3	0	
Fireplace & Wood/Coal/Pellet Stove (independent)	7	13	-6	
Swimming Pools: In-ground and above-ground	11	15	-4	
New/Replacement Manufactured Housing (M.H.)	3	3	0	
Permit for Temporary Housing Unit	1	0	1	
Commercial—New/Addition/Remodel	12	16	-4	
Multi-family Dwelling: R3, R2, R1 (Building, not units)	4	2	2	
Municipal Project	1	0	1	
Demolition Permit (independent)	3	3	0	% Change
<b>NUMBER OF BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3%</b>
Amount collected from building permits issued	\$63,939.00	\$90,415.00		
Addendum to open building permit, fees collected	\$1,001.00	\$1,164.00		
Plan Review and building permit transfer fees collected	\$500.00	\$900.00		
Copy and miscellaneous fees collected	\$53.00	\$33.00		
Non-residential Occupancy and Use	\$335.00	\$120.00		
Inspections: 780CMR, §106 and Acts of 2004, Ch. 304	\$160.00	\$160.00		
			+/-	% Change
<b>Total Building Permit Fees</b>	<b>\$65,988.00</b>	<b>\$92,792.00</b>	<b>-\$26,804.00</b>	<b>-29%</b>
<b>Total Wiring Permit Fees</b>	<b>\$15,190.00</b>	<b>\$18,244.00</b>	<b>-\$3,054.00</b>	<b>-17%</b>
<b>Total Plumbing Permit Fees</b>	<b>\$7,675.00</b>	<b>\$10,690.00</b>	<b>-\$3,015.00</b>	<b>-28%</b>
<b>Total Gas Permit Fees</b>	<b>\$6,360.00</b>	<b>\$5,750.00</b>	<b>\$610.00</b>	<b>11%</b>
<b>Total Enforcement Action Fees Collected</b>	<b>\$400.00</b>	<b>\$400.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>TOTAL DEPARTMENT FEES</b>	<b>\$95,613.00</b>	<b>\$127,876.60</b>	<b>-\$32,263.63</b>	<b>-25%</b>
<b>Fees Waived by Selectmen</b>	<b>\$90.00</b>	<b>\$4,051.00</b>		
<b>TOTAL COLLECTED REVENUE</b>	<b>\$95,523.00</b>	<b>\$123,825.00</b>	<b>-\$28,302.00</b>	<b>-23%</b>

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Philip J. Hagopian  
 Building Commissioner / Zoning Enforcement Officer



## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MERRIMAC WATER DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING JULY 31, 2006

The Board of Water Commissioners and Manager are pleased to submit the Annual Report of the Merrimac Water Department for the year 2006.

**NEW CONNECTIONS:** During 2006 there were 19 new homes and 2 multi unit dwelling's totaling 27 units connected to the town's water system, bringing the total number of connections to 1,751.

**PRIVILEGE FEE:** \$21,600.00 was collected during 2006 from individuals and developers for new service connections and deposited to Water Department Privilege Fee account. MWD utilizes this funding for various improvements to our distribution system.

**SURPLUS FUNDS:** MWD ended FY06 with a deficit of \$6,863.77. Those funds are scheduled to be paid to the Town at the annual Town meeting in May.

**SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS:** The Merrimac Water Department is constantly looking for ways to upgrade the water distribution system, but due to limited funding it is a slow process.

The East Main Street Pumping Station received a much needed new roof and Garage doors to save on the heating bills.

We have upgraded the SCADA system to improve monitoring of the outgoing water quality at our Water Treatment plant on Wallace Way.

Wells at both East Main and Bear Hill well fields were cleaned. The well cleaning, completed by F.G. Sullivan Co. is performed to improve pumping capacity and water quality.

### ANNUAL PUMPING STATISTICS:

Gallons pumped from Bear Hill and East Main	136,736,800	an increase of 661,120 from 2005
Gallons sold to customers	121,376,930	a decrease of 2,287,594 from 2005
Gallons plant backwash	861,000	
Gallons unaccounted for	14,498,870	– 10.6% of all water pumped could not be accounted for.
		Causes: Fire protection, flushing, inaccurate meters, water theft and minor leaks not detectable

**IN THE FUTURE:** We would like to look into bonding for a water main replacement along a stretch of Bear Hill Rd and upgrading the distribution system on the Attitash Ave side of the lake.

In FY2007 we will purchase a new utility truck to replace a 1997 van. The new truck will be a 1 ton diesel with a utility body to better suit the needs of the department.

We are in the midst of settling our water withdrawal permit with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). This permit will guarantee our permitted withdrawal to increase gradually with the growth of our community. The new permit will expire in 20 years.

The governing rules of the EPA and DEP are always changing and to keep up we have to implement new rules and procedures to comply. Without the support of the employees of the Water Department this would not be possible. My sincere thanks to all employees for their efforts and commitment to water quality throughout the year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel Folding, Manager

Board of Water Commissioners

Frederick Underwood	Term Expires 2007
Norman Denault	Term Expires 2008
Louis Bibeau	Term Expires 2009

**MERRIMAC WATER DEPARTMENT  
INCOME STATEMENT  
JULY 1, 2005-JUNE 30, 2006**

**REVENUE**

Residential, Commercial, Municipal Rates .....	667,785.13
Water Sprinklers .....	3,800.00
Water Miscellaneous .....	14,261.31
Fiscal Year Liens .....	1,355.46
Grants .....	2,500.00
<b>TOTAL REVENUE COLLECTED .....</b>	<b>693,557.36</b>

**EXPENSES**

Managers Salary .....	18,583.20
Office Salary .....	24,179.04
Water Dept. Wages .....	174,340.48
Overtime .....	26,906.52
Office Supplies .....	25,760.55
Fuel Heat .....	12,544.82
Purchased Power .....	31,453.76
Stock .....	67,624.15
Transportation .....	9,457.74
Engineering .....	16,677.49
Real Estate Taxes (NH) .....	3,362.00
Water Testing .....	6,318.66
Chemicals .....	29,793.35
Cross Connection .....	1,500.00
Well Cleaning .....	14,110.80
Roadway & Excavation .....	5,874.24
Commissioners Salary .....	0.00
Longevity Pay .....	683.33
Clothing/Boot Allowance .....	2,700.00
Water Conservation .....	0.00
Benefit Reimbursement .....	74,051.00
<b>TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES .....</b>	<b>545,921.13</b>
<b>TOTAL WATER BOND EXPENSE .....</b>	<b>154,500.00</b>

**TOTAL DIRECT AND BOND EXPENSE ..... 700,421.13**

**GROSS PROFIT ..... (6,863.77)**



## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS

The following is a report of the Board of Sewer Commissioners for calendar year 2006. The MERRIMAC WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY is an extended aeration oxidation ditch process designed to treat 450,000 gallons of raw sewage and 1,000 gallons of septage per day. The wastewater process generated wet sludge that was recycled for agricultural re-use as approved by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

Many homes have sewer available to them and are not connected to the system. The Board urges those people to connect, as capacity is not saved at the plant. In 2006, 28 houses were connected to the system.

An Administrative Consent Order (ACO) was issued in October 2002, requiring the Town of Merrimac to remove the extraneous inflow and infiltration (I&I) from the sanitary sewer system. The sewer department is currently working on this problem. Sump pumps and roof leaders are allowed to empty into the system. The department has had all the lines either smoked for illegal connections or televised to check for breaks.

The pump stations are receiving a great amount of grease which clogs the pumps and is costly to the rate payers in maintenance costs. The pumps are also being clogged by shoelaces, rags, and even underwear. Please be careful about disposing of these items.

### REVENUE FISCAL YEAR 2006

INVOICED USER FEES	\$1,003,661.65	*( \$72,208.52)
Collected:		
User Fees	\$979,007.91	
Liens	\$2,146.92	
Misc. Revenue	\$5,204.50	
Total Collected		\$986,759.33
EXPENDITURES FISCAL YEAR 2006		
O&M	\$612,006.26	
Debt Service	\$208,928.00	
Total Spent		\$820,934.26
		<u>\$165,825.07</u> <u>Gain</u>
DEVELOPMENT FUND		
Balance end of Fiscal Year 2005	\$233,825.27	
Collected Fiscal Year 2006	\$83,998.82	
Total Collected		\$317,824.09
Expended		<u>\$152,564.23</u>
Balance End of Fiscal Year 2006		\$165,259.86

*\*Uncollected user fees*

Respectfully Submitted,  
BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS

MICHAEL P. FALL, CHAIRMAN	Term Expires 2007
RICHARD L. HERBERT, CLERK	Term Expires 2008
JOHN G. BUZZELL, SR., MEMBER	Term Expires 2009

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MERRIMAC LIGHT DEPARTMENT YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2006

The Board of Light Commissioners and Manager are pleased to submit the Annual Report of the Merrimac Light Department for the year 2006.

**NEW SERVICES:** During 2006 there were a total of 25 new electrical services added to the town's electric distribution system. The total number of electric meters in service at year's end was 2,752.

**SYSTEM UPGRADES and TRIMMING:** Upgrades were completed in the School, Mill, Green, and Middle Road areas. We are continually upgrading the distribution system to increase reliability for existing customers and to stay ahead of the demand for the future. We anticipate upgrading the East Main Street, Attitash, Hillside, Pleasant View, Fern, Meadow View, Merrimac Ave and Bisson Lane areas for 2007.

The yearly trimming was done by Dubois Tree Service. They will be doing the trimming for the year to come which areas will include Hadley, Heath, Birchmeadow, the Plain's area, Grove, Winter, and numerous other streets.

We plan to upgrade the capacity of the Mill Street substation to cope with increasing demand. The upgrade which we plan to start in the Fall of 2007 will increase the capacity of the station from 7 Megawatts to 20 Megawatts. The upgrade will take approximately 6 to 8 months and cost close to 1 million dollars.

### CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE TOWN:

In Lieu of Tax Payment:	\$10,000.00
Unbilled Streetlight Usage:	\$16,325.63

**ELECTRIC RATES:** Our mission is to keep the electric rates as low as possible and still maintain a reliable distribution system. The cost of service rate study that was completed in 2006 determined that we were undercharging some rate classes and overcharging others. We also determined that a rate increase was necessary to prepare for the end of our long term contract and to complete some capital improvements that are needed to keep our system reliable.

**COMMUNITY:** The Merrimac Light Department is a Public Utility, that means it is owned by its rate payers and not by a board of directors like the investor owned utilities. That means that when you call or come into the office you get to talk to a person. Someone who will help you with questions that you may have about your bill or your electric service. We at the Merrimac Light and Water Department are here to serve the community.

The people who make this utility work for you - the employees and Commissioners - are the people who made this year work for all of us. They deserve our praise and my gratitude.

Respectfully Submitted,

Board of Light Commissioners

Daniel Folding, Manager

Frederick Underwood

Term Expires 2007

Norman Denault

Term Expires 2008

Louis Bibeau

Term Expires 2009



**MERRIMAC ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT  
COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET 2006**

	Balance Beginning of Year	Balance End of Year	Increase or (Decrease)
<b><u>ASSETS</u></b>			
<b>UTILITY PLANT</b>			
101 Utility Plant — Electric .....	2,546,796.66	2,603,960.75	57,164.09
<b>FUND ACCOUNTS</b>			
125 Sinking Funds .....	719.17	719.17	0.00
126 Depreciation Fund .....	1,097,042.61	1,079,467.45	-17,575.16
126.1 Rate Stabilization Fund .....	112,823.42	254,248.82	141,425.40
<b>CURRENT AND ACCRUED ASSETS</b>			
131 Cash .....	19,705.91	149,232.44	129,526.53
132 Special Deposits .....	34,776.21	40,939.78	6,163.57
132 Working Funds .....	200.00	200.00	0.00
142 Customer Accounts Receivable .....	150,946.95	195,049.35	44,102.40
143 Other Accounts Receivable .....			
146 Receivables from Municipality .....			
151 Materials and Supplies .....	15,001.94	15,001.94	0.00
165 Prepayments .....	19,617.00	19,617.00	0.00
165 Prepayments CTC charge .....	372,000.00	186,000.00	-186,000.00
<b>DEFERRED DEBITS</b>			
183 Other Deferred Debits .....	1,779.10	1,873.10	94.00
<b>Total Assets and Other Debits .....</b>	<b>4,371,408.97</b>	<b>4,546,309.80</b>	<b>174,900.83</b>
<b><u>LIABILITIES</u></b>			
<b>SURPLUS</b>			
206 Loans Repayments .....	1,034,847.96	1,126,277.96	91,430.00
207 Appropriations for Construction Repayments .....	8,889.05	8,889.05	0.00
208 Unappropriated Earned Surplus .....	2,018,996.68	2,297,834.58	278,837.90
<b>LONG TERM DEBT</b>			
221 Bonds .....			
231 Notes Payable .....	181,860.00	90,430.00	-91,430.00
<b>CURRENT AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES</b>			
232 Accounts Payable .....	370,634.06	200,748.42	-169,885.64
235 Customer Deposits .....	34,776.21	40,939.78	6,163.57
242 Miscellaneous Current and Accrued Liabilities .....	1,779.10	1,873.10	94.00
<b>DEFERRED CREDITS</b>			
252.1 Customer Advances for Construction .....	1,220.67	1,220.67	0.00
<b>RESERVES</b>			
260 Reserves for Uncollectible Accounts .....	5,799.12	5,799.12	0.00
<b>CONTRIBUTIONS IN AID OF CONSTRUCTION</b>			
271 Contributions in Aid of Construction .....	712,606.12	772,297.12	59,691.00
<b>Total Liabilities and Other Credits .....</b>	<b>4,371,408.97</b>	<b>4,546,309.80</b>	<b>174,900.83</b>



**MERRIMAC ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT  
STATEMENT OF INCOME FOR THE YEAR 2006**

	Current Year	Increase or (Decrease) from Preceding Year
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>		
400 Operating Revenue .....	3,387,211.12	440,817.38
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>		
401 Operation Expense .....	2,626,552.27	83,403.51
402 Maintenance Expense .....	210,515.78	36,880.36
403 Depreciation Expense .....	173,753.16	5,168.87
<b>Total Operating Expenses .....</b>	<b>3,010,821.21</b>	<b>125,452.74</b>
<b>Operating Income .....</b>	<b>376,389.91</b>	<b>315,364.44</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>		
415 Income from Merchandising, Jobbing and Contract Work .....	0.00	0.00
419 Interest Income .....	53,465.32	23,000.97
421 Miscellaneous Nonoperating Income .....		
<b>Total Income .....</b>	<b>429,855.23</b>	<b>338,365.41</b>
<b>INTEREST CHARGES</b>		
427 Interest on Bonds and Notes .....	9,275.43	(4,712.97)
431 Other Interest Expense .....		
<b>Total Interest Charges .....</b>	<b><u>9,275.43</u></b>	<b><u>(4,712.97)</u></b>
<b>NET INCOME .....</b>	<b><u>420,579.80</u></b>	<b><u>343,078.38</u></b>

	Debits	Credits
208 Unappropriated Earned Surplus (at beginning of period) .....		2,018,996.68
433 Balance Transferred from Income .....		420,579.80
434 Miscellaneous Credits to Surplus .....		102.32
435 Miscellaneous Debits to Surplus .....	112,518.59	
436 Appropriations of Surplus .....	29,325.63	
437 Surplus Applied to Depreciation .....		
208 Unappropriated Earned Surplus (at end of period) .....	<b><u>2,297,834.58</u></b>	
	<b><u>2,439,678.80</u></b>	<b><u>2,439,678.80</u></b>

## RECYCLING COMMITTEE 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

### Curbside Recycling

Merrimac residents recycled 339 tons of paper and cardboard, and 143 tons of metal, glass, and plastic containers. A total of 482 tons of material was taken out of the waste stream. Residents are encouraged to continue to recycle. Details of what should be recycled is available at Town Hall and on the town website. Recycling bins are available at Town Hall.

### Yard Waste Site

Merrimac residents made 1029 trips to the yard waste site during the summer and fall, dropping off biodegradable materials including leaves, grass, and brush. 59 Christmas trees were collected. The Recycling Committee appreciates the continued support of the highway department for chipping brush, loading materials, and helping to maintain the site.

### Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day

Despite heavy morning rain 162 residents took advantage of Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day in July, safely disposing of hazardous materials. Items collected included: propane tanks, batteries, fluorescent bulbs, oil paint, flammable liquids, pesticides, and used motor oil. A fee of \$5.00 per car was charged to offset the cost of the program. The town is charged \$24 - \$39 per car load by Clean Harbors, the state approved company hired to handle the hazardous waste. Separate fees were charged for items including car batteries and propane tanks. Residents with electronics were directed to Allied Computer Brokers in Amesbury.

### Programs

The Donahue School recycled paper, cardboard, cans, milk cartons, plastic water bottles and juice containers as well as ink jet and laser printer cartridges. Thanks to the custodial staff for help with container recycling. The Sweetsir School recycled paper, cardboard, ink jet and laser printer cartridges.

Susan Simmons' fourth grade class at the Donaghue School continued to participate in the Green Team program and organized a cell phone collection in addition to coordinating the printer cartridge recycling effort at the school. All together Merrimac's elementary school students and staff are diverting tons of recyclable materials from the waste stream.

Paper recycling also continued in Town Hall and at the Merrimac Public Library.

### Recycling Information

More recycling information is available at Town Hall, on the town website at [www.merrimac01860.info/recycling](http://www.merrimac01860.info/recycling), the state run website at [www.Earth911.org](http://www.Earth911.org), and by phone at 1-800-253-2687 (1-800-CLEANUP) or 1-877-327-8491 (1-877-EARTH911).

Respectfully submitted by the Recycling Committee

Dawn Ackerman

Jim Brown

Alicia Quarrier

Michael Miracle



**TOWN OF MERRIMAC  
FINANCE DIRECTOR**  
4 School Street  
Merrimac, MA 01860  
Phone (978) 346-0524  
Fax (978) 346-8863  
E-Mail: [mcleodmer@adelphia.net](mailto:mcleodmer@adelphia.net)

**Honorable Board of Selectmen  
Town of Merrimac  
Massachusetts, 01860**

Honorable Selectmen:

In accordance with the requirements of the Massachusetts General Laws, the Annual Financial Report of the Town Accountant for the Town of Merrimac, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006 is herewith submitted.

The data represents a fair and accurate presentation in all material aspects of the Town's financial position and the results of its operations. Disclosures necessary to enable the reader to gain an understanding of the Town's financial affairs have been presented. Included are schedules on debt issue and servicing, a detailed listing of revenues and expenditures, a balance sheet for all fund types and account groups, and a combined statement of cash flows.

The reports are based on information recorded using the Uniform Municipal Accounting System (UMAS) of the Massachusetts Department of Revenue. The same information was used to prepare the Schedule A.

An audit of the Town's financial records by Bill Fraher, C.P.A., has been completed and the results of this audit are available in my office for public inspection. The books of the Town are also open for public inspection during normal business hours.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol A. McLeod  
Finance Director & Treasurer

**TOWN OF MERRIMAC**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES**  
**BUDGETARY BASIS - GENERAL FUND**  
**FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2006**

	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Property Taxes	\$ 7,829,814	\$ 7,739,542	\$ (90,272)
Excise Taxes	710,000	732,860	22,860
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	1,300	-	(1,300)
Departmental Charges for Services	1,811,076	1,851,284	40,208
Licenses and Permit	136,500	118,031	(18,469)
Intergovernmental	1,246,448	1,240,034	(6,414)
Fines	64,000	97,180	33,180
Special Assessments	25,000	104,107	79,107
Investment Income	40,000	44,947	4,947
Other	247,500	269,994	22,494
Total Revenue	<u>12,111,638</u>	<u>12,197,979</u>	<u>86,341</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
General Government	534,103	501,936	32,167
Public Safety	1,075,299	1,039,452	35,847
Education	5,669,261	5,669,261	-
Public Works	2,078,795	2,003,378	75,417
Human Services	204,290	199,684	4,606
Culture and Recreation	296,629	293,296	3,333
Debt Service	1,415,147	1,415,146	1
State and County Assessments	78,905	77,227	1,678
Employee Benefits	467,826	444,029	23,797
Insurance	90,704	88,930	1,774
Total Expenditures	<u>11,910,959</u>	<u>11,732,339</u>	<u>178,620</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenditures	200,679	465,640	264,961
Other Financing Sources (Uses)			
Special Articles/Other Sources (Uses)	(84,324)	(273,438)	189,114
Operating Transfers In	263,859	263,859	-
Operating Transfers (Out)	<u>(380,214)</u>	<u>(380,214)</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenditures and other Financing Sources (Uses)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 75,847</u>	<u>\$ 454,075</u>



**TOWN OF MERRIMAC**  
**COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**  
**NON-MAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**  
**FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006**

	Governmental Fund Types		Fiduciary Fund Types		
	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Stabilization Fund	Other Trust and Agency Funds	Total
Revenues:					
Department Charges for Services	\$ 168,033			\$ 50,011	\$ 50,011
Intergovernmental	\$ 12,029				\$ 168,033
Investment Income	\$ 246,120	\$ 70,056	\$ 17,674	\$ 4,298	\$ 34,001
Other				\$ 3,900	\$ 320,076
Total Revenue	<u>\$ 426,182</u>	<u>\$ 70,056</u>	<u>\$ 17,674</u>	<u>\$ 58,209</u>	<u>\$ 572,121</u>
Expenditures:					
Current					
General Government	\$ 159,132			\$ 45,159	\$ 204,291
Public Safety	\$ 36,315			-	\$ 36,315
Public Works	\$ 89,899			6,201	\$ 96,100
Human Services	\$ 7,218				\$ 7,218
Recreation and Culture	\$ 3,346	\$ 431,071		500	\$ 3,846
Capital Outlay					\$ 431,071
Total Expenditure	<u>\$ 295,910</u>	<u>\$ 431,071</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 51,860</u>	<u>\$ 778,841</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues over Expenditure	\$ 130,272	\$ (361,015)	\$ 17,674	\$ 6,349	\$ (206,720)
Other Financing Sources (Uses)					
Proceeds from Bonds Issues	\$ -	-			\$ -
Operating Transfers In	\$ 57,997	-	322,217	-	\$ 380,214
Operating Transfer Out	\$ (90,950)	-	(159,909)	-	\$ (250,859)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	<u>\$ (32,953)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 162,308</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 129,355</u>
Net Changes in Fund Balances	\$ 97,319	\$ (361,015)	\$ 179,982	\$ 6,349	\$ (77,365)
Fund Balance, Beginning of Year	<u>\$ 745,270</u>	<u>\$ 604,883</u>	<u>\$ 413,112</u>	<u>\$ 401,332</u>	<u>\$ 2,164,597</u>
Fund Balance, End of Year	<u>\$ 842,589</u>	<u>\$ 243,868</u>	<u>\$ 593,094</u>	<u>\$ 407,681</u>	<u>\$ 2,087,232</u>

**TOWN OF MERRIMAC**  
**COMBINING BALANCE SHEET – ALL FUNDS**  
**FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006**

	Governmental Fund Types			Fiduciary Fund Types	Account Group	
	General Fund	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Stabilization Fund	Other Trust and Agency Funds	General Long-Term Obligations
<b>Assets</b>						<b>Total (Memorandum only)</b>
Cash and Investments	662,310	842,588	243,868	593,094	408,567	2,750,427
Accounts Receivable	1,260,345					1,260,345
Due From Other Governments	0	0				0
Amount to be Provided for Payment of Bonds						11,991,681
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>\$ 1,922,655</u>	<u>\$ 842,588</u>	<u>\$ 243,868</u>	<u>\$ 593,094</u>	<u>\$ 408,567</u>	<u>\$ 16,002,453</u>
<b>Liabilities and Fund Equity</b>						
<b>Liabilities</b>						
Warrants, Accounts, and Bonds Payable	(4,722)					11,986,959
Short Term Notes Payable						0
Deferred Revenue, Other Liabilities	1,260,345					1,260,345
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>\$ 1,255,623</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>\$ 13,247,304</u>
<b>Fund Balances</b>						
Reserved for Specific Purposes	385,250					385,250
Unreserved	281,782	842,588	243,868	593,094	408,567	2,369,899
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	<u>\$ 667,032</u>	<u>\$ 842,588</u>	<u>\$ 243,868</u>	<u>\$ 593,094</u>	<u>\$ 408,567</u>	<u>\$ 2,755,149</u>
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Equity</b>	<u>\$ 1,922,655</u>	<u>\$ 842,588</u>	<u>\$ 243,868</u>	<u>\$ 593,094</u>	<u>\$ 408,567</u>	<u>\$ 16,002,453</u>



**TOWN OF MERRIMAC  
GENERAL LONG TERM DEBT ACTIVITY  
FISCAL YEAR 2006**

Issue	Issue Date	Interest Rate	Original Amount	Balance 7/1/05	Additions	Retired	Balance 6/30/06	Interest Paid 7/1/05-6/30/06
Title V	4/29/1999	0%	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 133,204.56	\$ -	\$ 11,100.36	\$ 122,104.20	\$ -
Multi-Purpose Loan	12/15/1999	5.125% - 6.5%	\$ 1,910,000.00	\$ 1,335,000.00	\$ -	\$ 105,000.00	\$ 1,230,000.00	\$ 68,164.36
Multi-Purpose Loan	12/15/2000	5.10%	\$ 999,000.00	\$ 399,000.00	\$ -	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 249,000.00	\$ 16,524.00
River Road MWPAT	10/6/1999		\$ 149,856.00	\$ 121,558.00	\$ -	\$ 4,529.70	\$ 117,028.30	\$ 1,512.02
Multi-Purpose Loan	6/28/2001	5.5% - 5.75%	\$ 310,000.00	\$ 140,000.00	\$ -	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 7,810.00
Multi-Purpose Loan	4/5/2002	3.79%	\$ 356,000.00	\$ 175,000.00	\$ -	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 125,000.00-	\$ 6,632.50
Refunded	10/15/2002	2.5% - 4.6%	\$ 4,820,000.00	\$ 4,105,000.00	\$ -	\$ 565,000.00	\$ 3,540,000.00	\$ 133,875.00
Town Hall	10/15/2002	2.5% - 4.6%	\$ 2,850,000.00	\$ 2,560,000.00	\$ -	\$ 145,000.00	\$ 2,415,000.00	\$ 99,045.00
Sewer	10/15/2002	2.5% - 4.6%	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 90,000.00	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 85,000.00	\$ 3,490.00
Multi-Purpose Loan	11/15/2003	2% - 4.5%	\$ 4,231,000.00	\$ 4,000,000.00	\$ -	\$ 230,000.00	\$ 3,770,000.00	\$ 147,952.50
Multi-Purpose Loan	4/15/2004	3.75%	\$ 405,000.00	\$ 320,000.00	\$ -	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 240,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
<b>Total All</b>				<b>\$13,378,762.56</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,385,630.06</b>	<b>\$11,993,132.50</b>	<b>\$ 497,005.38</b>
<b>Less: Electric</b>			<b>\$ 640,000.00</b>	<b>\$ (274,290.00)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (92,430.00)</b>	<b>\$ (181,860.00)</b>	<b>\$ (11,631.82)</b>
<b>Total Excluding Electric</b>				<b>\$13,104,472.56</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,293,200.06</b>	<b>\$11,811,272.50</b>	<b>\$ 485,373.56</b>

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The Board of Assessors respectfully submits the following report for the calendar year 2006.

The new values for Fiscal 2007 were a result of recertification. During the year 2006, the Board of Assessors, again, hired Patriot Properties to review sales recorded during 2005 and prepare the required documentation to be presented to the Massachusetts Department of Revenue for approval. Merrimac's tax rate of \$9.99 was approved on December 13, 2006. For the first time in many years Commercial and Industrial properties had a larger average increase (13%) than residential properties (10%).

The "Senior Work-off Program" continues to be a success with the Senior Center staff overseeing its operation.

### Board of Assessors

Edward R. Davis, Chairman	Term expires 2009
Diane F. Cole	Term expires 2007
Joyce E. Clohecyc	Term expires 2008

Joyce E. Clohecyc, Clerk  
Michelle Barry, Assistant Clerk

### Tax Rate Recapitulation Fiscal 2007

#### 1. Tax Rate Summary

A. Total Amount to be Raised	\$13,442,053.54
B. Total Estimated Receipts/Revenue	5,357,548.02
C. Net Amount to be Raised by Taxation (Levy)	8,084,505.52
D. Classified Tax Levies	
1. Residential	95.9474%
2. Open Space	0
3. Commercial	2.3935
4. Industrial	1.0817
5. Personal	0.5774
	<hr/>
	100.0000%

#### 2. Amounts to be raised

A. Appropriation	\$13,213,224.02
B. Overlay Deficit prior years	71.43
C. Cherry Sheet offsets	8,307.00
D. Snow and Ice deficit Ch 44 Sec 31.d	36,977.00
E. Overlay	76,306.09

Total Amount to be raised	\$13,442,053.54
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3. Estimated Receipts and other Revenue

A. Estimated Receipts – State	\$1,403,043.00
B. Estimated Receipts – Local	3,386,810.00
C. Revenue Sources Appropriated	557,695.02
D. Other Revenues to Reduce Tax Rate	10,000.00

Total Estimated Receipts	\$5,357,548.02
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Number of Taxable Accounts

Residential Single	1,565
Residential Two	111
Residential Three	8
Residential Apt. Bldg./Misc.	18
Residential Land	190
Condominiums	177
Commercial	52
Industrial	21
Commercial Other	54
Personal Property	120

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD, 2006

2006 was an exceptionally busy time for the Merrimac Planning Board.

We continued to revise and improve the Zoning By Laws and follow the purpose of our new Master Plan. We have continued to solicit the opinions and participation from not only all town board members but also the general public. This process remains an invaluable asset for the greater benefit of our community.

Regarding the bi-weekly work of the Planning Board, we approved 8 Form "A" building lots throughout town, received 3 Special Permit Applications with Site Plan Review. We also oversaw the continuation of 3 subdivisions. In addition, we held several preconceptual conferences on future projects. In total, the Planning Board received \$8,200 in fees and sale of bylaw materials for the year.

I want to take a moment to recognize the fine work and outstanding commitment to public service by the members of our board, most notably Robert Sinibaldi who retired following 10 years of service. Also Vice Chairman Raymond Gingras, John Thomas, Sandra Venner and our newest member, Dennis Brody. I also want to recognize Daryl King who is our new alternate to the Planning Board for Special Permits and Site Plan Reviews, and our secretary, Patricia True.

It has been a pleasure to serve the citizens of Merrimac and I look forward to another busy and productive year.

Best Regards,

Rick J. Pinciario

Chairman

Merrimac Planning Board



## ANNUAL REPORT- OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

As Town Clerk of the Town of Merrimac, I hereby submit my annual report for the year 2006

### BIRTHS

Number of Births Recorded . . . . .	54
Males . . . . .	25
Females . . . . .	24
Father, Native Born . . . . .	53
Mother, Native Born . . . . .	53
Both Parents Native Born . . . . .	53
Both Parents Foreign Born . . . . .	—
Mixed Parentage . . . . .	1

### MARRIAGES

Number of Marriages Recorded . . . . .	21
First Marriage, Male . . . . .	12
First Marriage, Female . . . . .	14
Male Native Born . . . . .	20
Female Native Born . . . . .	19
Average Age, Male . . . . .	34yrs 6m
Average Age, Female . . . . .	33yrs 10m

### DEATHS

Number of Deaths Recorded . . . . .	41
Males . . . . .	17
Females . . . . .	24
Under 5 years . . . . .	1
Males, Native Born . . . . .	17
Females, Native Born . . . . .	22
Parents, Native Born . . . . .	29
Parents, Foreign Born . . . . .	7
Mixed parentage . . . . .	5
Average Age . . . . .	79yrs-9m
Oldest Person . . . . .	100

### LICENSES

Total Dog Licenses . . . . .	640
Male . . . . .	28
Female . . . . .	24
Spayed . . . . .	288
Neutered . . . . .	300
Kennel Licenses . . . . .	—
Sporting Licenses . . . . .	121
Minor's Sporting Licenses . . . . .	1

Respectfully submitted,  
Patricia E. True  
Town Clerk

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL OFFICER

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen: Activities from Jan 1, 2006 to Dec 31, 2006

The dog license year is from April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2007. There are 641 dogs licensed, which is down from the 2005 year, when 687 dogs were licensed. Many town residents do not feel they need to license their dogs and ignore post card reminders and phone calls. Some residents may not realize it is a MA General Law. Licensing all dogs is an area of concern, as licensing provides proof of rabies vaccination and it is lost revenue for the town of Merrimac. Perhaps with non-criminal citations the number of licensed dogs will increase.

The Annual Rabies Clinic was held April 26, 2006. Destroyed under suspicion of rabies or because they bit humans were: two cats, one fox, and three raccoons. Tested at the State lab for rabies were two cats and 1 bat and all three were negative.

Twenty-nine dogs were picked up running at large. The leash law violation money is returned to the Town General Fund and was in the amount of \$690.00. One dog remained unclaimed and was a stray - an Australian Shepherd mix. Three cats and two kittens were picked up. Two of the cats were euthanized because they were feral, thus unadoptable, and the others were adopted. Four domestic rabbits and a blue parakeet were picked up and adopted. One ferret was found and the owner located.

Three dogs and two cats were injured and transported to veterinarians. One dog and eight cats were hit and killed. Also killed on the roads were: deer, fox, opossum, woodchucks, porcupine, and squirrels. Dead birds caused concerns due to West Nile, but birds are a dead-end host, and the bird is not contagious to humans, unlike mosquitos.

There were six reported dog bites and two reported cat bites to humans. Quarantines were done for 10 days. There was one 45 day Quarantine for a vaccinated cat with a wound of unknown origin and four Quarantines for 6 months for unvaccinated cats with wounds.

Nuisance complaints concerning dogs (not running at large, but other issues) were twenty-eight and there were eight barking dog complaints. There were several complaints in a neighborhood of loose chickens. Being a good neighbor involves keeping your animals quiet and under control.

Wildlife concerns are generally handled over the phone with identifying the species; education by interpretation of behavior, circumstance of behavior, eliminating the attraction (food, trash, denning source); determining if the animal really needs help (orphan or sick or injured); and making suggestions to resolve the concerns and conflict. Trapping and moving wildlife is illegal. A good source of wildlife information is: [www.masswildlife.org](http://www.masswildlife.org).

Respectfully Submitted,

Madelyn Cirinna

Animal Care and Control Officer



## ANNUAL REPORT OF CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

As in other years, departments were asked to submit forms documenting their capital requests for FY'07 and the next five years. Capital items included on the request forms and on the inventory forms maintained by the departments must have life duration of at least five years and initial cost of \$5,000 or more. In March the committee met with the departments and reviewed supporting documents to determine its recommendations. The criteria applied for developing recommendations in order of priority are: a.) necessary to respond to state or federal mandate; b.) public health and/or safety consideration; or c.) operational necessity. The available source of funding for each item is also taken into consideration in making the recommendations.

At the Special Town Meeting on May 1, 2006, the CPC supported transfers from Free Cash totaling \$101,000 to fund seven department capital requests ranging from \$5,000 to \$34,000. Due to concern regarding the possible consequences of passage of a general override vote at the Town Election, five of the items were tabled by Town Meeting voters for reconsideration at the fall Special Town Meeting. The CPC also supported the vote to transfer \$202,801 from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund. At the May 2006 Annual Town Meeting, the CPC recommended expenditures from the Sewer Capital Fund of \$71,000 for a truck and generator and \$35,000 from the Water Capital Fund for a truck – all were voted affirmatively.

A report from the CPC was distributed to Town Meeting voters. The report included an analysis of the multi-year property tax impact of recently voted debt exclusions for major capital projects, and recently voted general overrides. It also included a summary of the recommendations for articles appearing on the warrants, a six-year history of the Stabilization Fund, and a listing of departments' requested capital expenditures through FY'11.

At a Special Town Meeting on September 18, 2006, the CPC recommended support for four capital items that were tabled at the Special Town Meeting in May ranging in costs from \$10,600 to \$34,000 – all were voted affirmatively. Funding for the items was transferred from the Stabilization Fund, thus lowering the Stabilization Fund to about \$500,000 or 5% of the Omnibus budget.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Venner, Chairperson

Michael Baumert, Representing Finance Committee thru June 2006

Catherine Gabriel-Heusser, Representing Finance Committee after June 2006

Carol Traynor, Representing Board of Selectmen

Ed Madden

Janet Bruno

## MERRIMAC CONSERVATION COMMISSION 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

The primary function of the Conservation Commission is to protect and preserve wetland resource areas as defined in the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act and the Merrimac Wetland Protection Bylaw. Since Colonial times, Massachusetts has lost nearly one third of its wetlands to development. The loss of wetlands means the loss of the vital benefits they provide. These benefits include the protection of water quality for Merrimac's surface and ground waters, stormwater and flood damage protection, and the protection of wildlife and plant habitat.

The Commission works to protect the Town's natural resources in accordance with the Act and the Town Bylaw. The Conservation Commission is composed of seven members who serve as unpaid volunteers, who are assisted by a part-time Wetland Agent. The Commission generally meets once a month on the second Wednesday of the month to conduct regular business and public hearings on proposed projects under the Commission's jurisdiction. When necessary, the Commission schedules special meetings and site visits to review projects. During the course of this year twelve regular meetings were held, eight site visits were conducted, and the Commission held one special meeting. There were seventeen projects filed with the Commission, primarily involving construction of subdivision roads and utilities, new single-family homes, and additions to existing buildings throughout Merrimac. Three subdivisions were still ongoing and many Certificate of Compliances were issued for completed work. In addition to reviewing proposed projects submitted by property owners, the Commission addresses work that affects wetlands conducted without the required permits. In 2006, nine enforcement orders were issued to property owners regarding work undertaken in violation of the Act.

This year the Commission continued to implement the additional protection measures provided in the Merrimac Wetland Protection Bylaw and the Merrimac Wetland Protection Regulations when considering proposed projects in Town. The Bylaw was adopted at Town Meeting in the fall of 2003, and it became effective in late 2003. During 2004, the Commission expended considerable effort to draft the Merrimac Wetlands Protection Regulations, which were subsequently adopted in August 2004. The regulations include a number of provisions to strengthen protection of Merrimac's wetlands including:

1. Provide added protection to wetlands with no or limited protection by state law such as isolated wetlands and vernal pools--wetlands that hold water in the spring long enough to provide critical breeding habitat for frogs, salamanders and other aquatic life and most dry up by mid-summer. Vernal pools are rare in the landscape. Many vernal pools are small, isolated wetlands that have little or no protection under the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act.
2. Establish a no-disturb zone surrounding wetlands to protect wetlands from new development and encroachment from existing development.
3. Allow the Commission to issue fines to irresponsible property owners who ignore orders issued by the Commission and damage wetland resources.
4. Allow the town to charge reasonable application fees to defray the cost of administering the Bylaw.

The Commission is now applying the requirements of the new regulations to any project in town. If you are contemplating any work within 100 feet of a wetland or within 200 feet of any river or stream that flows year-round (such as the Merrimack River and Cobblers Brook), you need to consult with the Commission prior to undertaking any work.



Wetlands are an important resource to Merrimac. They protect, filter, and provide the high quality of water in our wells. They protect and support fish and wildlife in Lake Attitash, the Merrimack River, and other water bodies in town. They provide habitat and food sources for the birds, reptiles, amphibians and other animals that make Merrimac a unique place to live. They provide large tracts of open and undeveloped land that make up the quality of life we all enjoy in Merrimac. The Commission is eager to assist landowners in their decisions about whether and how to proceed with a project near wetlands. We encourage all residents to contact us regarding any questions or concerns related to the Towns wetland resources. The Commission is always looking for interested citizens that may want to become involved in working to protect the valuable wetland resources we all share in Merrimac. If you have an interest or expertise in protecting wetlands please contact any of the Commission members, or just attend one of the meetings, to get involved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Merrimac Conservation Commission

Robert Prokop, Chairman

Ellis Katz

Jon Pearson

Tim Simmons

Janet Terry

Deborah Woodward

Arthur Yarranton

## 2006 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH

The Board of Health meets at 7:00 PM on the first and third Thursdays of each month. We may be contacted at 978-346-4066. The office is staffed on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

During 2006, the Board of Health has continued to participate in Homeland Security, the Emergency Preparedness Plan, Pandemic Flu Plan and Regional Coalition. Deborah Ketchen and Charlotte E. Stepanian, Public Health Nurse, are our primary representatives and contacts in this program.

Deborah Ketchen has been our Health Inspector since March 2006. She possesses certifications as Food Sanitarian; Professional Food Manager; Sanitation and Hazard Analysis; Soil Evaluator; Lead Evaluator; and Babcock Tester. She also has a strong working knowledge of local regulations and state codes including but not limited to Title 5, On-Site Disposal Systems; 105 CMR 590.000 (Food Service); 105 CMR 410.000 (Minimum Standards of Housing); 940 CMR 10.00 (Manufactured Housing Community); 105 CMR 561.000 (Frozen Dessert Machines); 105 CMR 435.000 (Swimming Pools and Hot Tubs); 105 CMR 445.000 (Bathing Beaches); and 105 CMR 123.000 (Tanning Facilities)

Deborah inspects food establishments and disposal system installations, reviews septic designs, witnesses percolation and deep hole tests, responds to health-related complaints, inspects rental dwellings and performs many other Title V and health-related duties. Deborah also attends meetings regarding Homeland Security, Emergency Preparedness and Pandemic Flu Plan and attends numerous seminars related to alternate types of septic systems and updates on food and well criteria, etc.

Eileen Hurley, Chairperson of the Board and Office Administrator, is MAHB Certified, and assists contractors and the general public by responding to their questions and requirements. She also oversees the Title V Program and maintains central records and minutes of meetings.

Anne Rundle, our newly temporary-appointed Board member since March 2006, is available to assist with nursing-related duties such as the flu clinic, disaster preparedness and to provide triage during times of disaster. Anne has experience in consulting, teaching and servicing numerous facilities, corporations and community agencies with a goal to maintain or improve health services for patients and the community.

David Libby, also our newly temporary-appointed Board member since August 2006, is available to assist in Board of Health duties. David has a BS in Business with a major in Accounting, and he has a diversified range of experience with several firms. He presently works for a city senior services agency where his expertise is directed towards budgeting and forecasting for the agency, reviewing and executing state and federal contracts, preparing audits and financial statements and an array of other responsibilities.

During 2006, the Board responded to multiple complaints relating to odors, birds, dumpsters, well and septic conditions, and other private matters. In the summer, the Health Agent takes samples of Lake Attitash water at Indian Head Park Beach to be tested for E-coli, and the test results are published weekly in the Town of Merrimac official web site. Several application forms are available on line also, and we are continuing to add information to the site, such as various Board of Health Regulations.



The following permits generated \$13,935 in fees in 2006.

BUSINESS PERMITS			WORK PERMITS		
Qty.	Category	Fee	Qty.	Category	Fee
17	Food	\$ 1,060	11	Disposal System	\$ 3,400
2	Mobile Food Service	100	7	Septic Abandonment	350
17	Installers	2,175	9	Perc. & Deep Hole Test	700
4	Haulers	200	3	Well & Pump	900
10	Massage Therapy	515	15	Perked Lots (not paid)	1,700
2	Tanning	165			
5	Tobacco Sales	265	7	Pre-Rental Inspections	270
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 4,615</b>		<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 9,320</b>

Respectfully Submitted,

Merrimac Board of Health

Eileen Hurley

David Libby

Anne Rundle

Term expires 2008

Term expires 2009 (Appointed to 2007)

Term expires 2007 (Appointed to 2007)

## MOSQUITO CONTROL PROGRAM INFORMATION



**SURVEILLANCE** and **LARVICIDING** are of the utmost importance, and they comprise the greatest portion of the program cost. This is the regular testing of mosquitoes and birds for the virus, and the application of larvicides to mosquito breeding areas to kill or inhibit the growth of mosquito larvae (the early stage of the mosquito) from developing into the adult form. Continued annual surveillance is an early intervention or preemptive action to prevent a potential mosquito breeding site from becoming an actual mosquito breeding site.

**ADULTICIDING** is a term used by mosquito control to describe spraying for adult or flying mosquitoes. There are two kinds of adulticiding: Aerial, done by aircraft only in the event of a public health emergency; and Ground, sprayed from trucks selectively in accordance with the individual municipality's Best Management Practice Plan (BMP).

Ground Adulticiding is used in today's programs to control the mosquito populations in their aquatic or larval stages. This is accomplished by means of a truck-mounted Ultra Low Volume (ULV) aerosol sprayer. ULV sprays up to six ounces of insecticide per acre, creating a 300- to 400-foot swath. Depending on wind direction this swath will drift off the road; and tiny droplets will impinge on mosquitoes, effectively controlling the mosquitoes in the area.

**Insecticide:** The District uses Anvil (EPA Reg. No. 1021-1688-8329) for ULV applications. The active ingredient, Sumithrin, has a very low toxicity to mammals. This product is registered for use by the US EPA and the Mass. Pesticide Bureau. All District personnel are certified applicators and annually attend seminars to obtain recertification credits.

Most people are not expected to experience any adverse health effects after pesticide spraying for adult mosquito control. This includes pregnant women and unborn children. If a person has any concerns, the Board of Health may be contacted to request that spraying be excluded from the specific property.

Ground sprays do not pose an unreasonable risk to birds or mammals. Since spraying is done in the late evening, the bees and other flying insects are not foraging at that hour and will not be affected.

**West Nile Virus:** The primary mosquito carrier of WNV, *Culex Pipiens*, usually breeds in artificial containers such as catch basins, storm water structures, industrial parks and commercial or agricultural livestock facilities. Regularly empty any water-holding containers on your property such as garbage cans, flower pots, swimming pool covers, watering troughs and birdbaths, and dispose of old tires.

**Information about EEE** and reports of EEE activity in Massachusetts during 2006 can be found on the MDPH website at [www.mass.gov/dph/wnv/wnvl.htm](http://www.mass.gov/dph/wnv/wnvl.htm). Merrimac will continue to work closely with the MDPH Arbovirus Surveillance Program and the Northeast Massachusetts Mosquito Control Agency on mosquito control and surveillance efforts. Decisions regarding spraying will be made by the Board of Health in cooperation with the Mosquito Control Agency.



## 2006 PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE REPORT

The past year has been a period of intense “taking stock of assets and needs” in the local public health community across the Commonwealth. This was done formally by the Coalition for Local Public Health (CLPH) and the Massachusetts Association of Public Health Nurses (MAPHN) in a statewide survey of local health departments. The CLPH survey tools focused on staff, salary, funding sources and retirement eligibility while the MAPHN survey completed by the public health nurses targeted education, total experience, salary and age. I was actively involved in both of these projects as a co-author because of my position as president of MAPHN. Both of these survey results were presented as scientific sessions at the 2006 Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association in Boston in November 2006.

The CLPH survey results can be viewed online at <http://www.mphaweb.org> by clicking on Resources, MPHA Publications and “*Strengthening Local Public Health in Massachusetts: A Call To Action*”. I can provide copies of the nursing survey upon request. Excerpts from these survey results confirm that the majority of local health departments do not have adequate staffing to respond to major public health events or even many daily demands. Further challenging each local department is the aging workforce with greater than 20% eligible to retire in the next two years. Sixty percent of public health nurses in Massachusetts are 50 years old or older with more than half holding bachelor’s degrees or higher—the recommended educational level for entry into public health practice. However, as this group approaches retirement age within the next ten years, few replacements are in the pipeline as replacements. A grave cause for concern for all communities striving to maintain healthy populations within their jurisdictions!

The annual Flu season was again a major challenge this year. The incremental vaccine distribution plan delayed public health clinics until mid-November while pharmacies and supermarkets across the Commonwealth held numerous clinics from early October on. I was still able to attain a similar number of doses administered (520+) as in past years with a combination of state-supplied and purchased vaccine. In 2007, there will be no adult state supplied vaccine for private providers. Department of Public Health state budget constraints have made this policy change necessary. Additional demands are expected on the public clinics as a result with amounts of vaccine available still uncertain at this writing.

I am sorry to report that Lyme disease remains as the most frequently reported disease in Merrimac. I will again restate my comments from a year ago with the hopes that Merrimac residents will take heed and become more vigilant for themselves and their family members. *Sadly, for those afflicted who must endure the ravages of this disease, it remains a preventable disease. Years of educational information and literature have been available throughout this high incidence region yet the numbers continue to rise. This rise can perhaps be attributed to improved testing and diagnosis. However, increased personal vigilance with thorough “tick-checks” and proper outdoor clothing and use of repellents will promote a reduction in the Lyme disease victims.*

My office is on the first floor of the Senior Center, 100 East Main Street where I am available in person or by phone at 978-346-9549 X 14. Weekly blood pressure clinics are held each Tuesday at 12:30 PM at the Senior Center and on Wednesday at 1 PM at Merri Village. All adult immunizations are available by appointment.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Charlotte Eileen Stepanian, BS, MSN, RN,C

## MERRIMAC COUNCIL ON AGING

### Annual Report 2006

The Senior Center has been exceedingly active in providing meals, transportation, health screenings, outreach to home-bound elders, wellness programs and activities:

<u>Service:</u>	<u>Duplicated:</u>	<u>Unduplicated Seniors Served:</u> (60 & Over)
Nutrition Program:	4,450 (meals)	282
Health Screenings:	617	308
Transportation:	1310 (rides)	72
Programs & Activities:	15,228	751 (532 Women, 219 Men)
Number of non-residents served: 50		
2006 Estimate of 60 (+) Population: 1,085		

One of the largest challenges the C.O.A. faced this year was providing assistance and holding educational workshops on Medicare Part D and Prescription Advantage for seniors. This was extremely time consuming and at times very frustrating. However, the staff rose to the occasion and worked many extra hours to make sure everyone that needed help got it.

The Senior Tax Work-Off Program completed the first year with 17 participating seniors working in several town departments including the Fire Department, Assessors Office, Town Clerk, Merrimac Public Schools, Library and the Senior Center.

The Senior Food Pantry provided groceries twice a month to Merrimac seniors and adults 50 and older who were in need of assistance. Once again, the Pantry is grateful to the Church of the Holy Redeemer (formerly the Nativity), Merrimacport United Methodist Church, Pilgrim Congregational Church, the Merrimac Post Office, Merrimac Boy Scouts, Merrimac Girl Scouts, youth groups, and many residents who have made generous donations and held food drives. This year the Pantry served over 40 seniors and their families. The Pantry volunteers also helped coordinate the food to share with Amesbury Community Action (which also serves Merrimac residents). This year many parents and their children participated in making donations! The Pantry was grateful to local farmers who donated fresh vegetables during the summer months. Thanks also goes to the many generous people who donated money that made it possible to purchase hams, chickens and other products for holidays and special occasions.

The Public Health Nurse continues to be available at the Senior Center for consultations, health information, emergency treatment, and adult immunizations. In addition, weekly blood pressure clinics are held at the Senior Center on Tuesdays at 12:30 p.m., and at MerriVillage on Wednesdays at 1 p.m.; both are used by local residents of all ages. A monthly health education and promotion column appears in the monthly newsletter *The CenterPiece*, under the heading "Thought You'd Like to Know..."

The Friends of the Merrimac C.O.A. were very active this year. Their accomplishments included providing funding for the following: Completed Parking lot light project, The *Italian Serenaders* concert, supported the Eagle Scout project by Tom St. Pierre (clearing out and making a walking trail behind the Senior Center with picnic tables), purchased two new computers for staff, purchased Myseniorcenter.com data program, sponsored the volunteer luncheon, the Mother's Day Tea, exercise classes, painting classes, purchased a glass display cabinet, dug up and replaced front lawn of senior center, donated to the Pentucket Scholarship fund, paid advertisement in Merrimac phone book, sponsored the July cook-out, purchased a vacuum cleaner, and purchased a Boston Post Cane replica to award to the oldest Merrimac resident.



They continued to provide a monthly stipend to support the Pantry, Nutrition Program and general supplies. The Friends major fundraising event for the year was the 3rd Annual Golf Tournament with special thanks to Charles Hackett who organized it and was the platinum sponsor (Retirement Solutions). Anyone wishing to be a member of the Friends can contact Martha Flinn, President, Rita Wells, Vice President, Connie Hoyt, Secretary or Richard Fournier, Treasurer or call the Senior Center. Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 1:30 at the Senior Center.

The Council would like to thank Dick Beaupre, of TLC Lawn Care, for treating the Senior Center lawn at no cost all year.

Laura Dillingham-Mailman, Executive Director, finished out her two year term as President of the state association, Massachusetts Councils on Aging (MCOA) which serves the 351 cities and towns in the Commonwealth. However, she will continue to serve as Past President on the Board of Directors and Advisory Council. Laura also sits on the Executive Board as Clerk for Elder Services of Merrimack Valley (ESMV), and is Assistant Treasurer for the Northern Essex Elder Transport (NEET).

Council on Aging Board of Directors:

Colleen Ranshaw-Fiorello, Chairwoman	
Carol Ranshaw, Treasurer	David Dutton
Dorothy Lumsden, Secretary	Herbert Gynan
Nancy Bachelder	Irene Kimbrell
Dorothy A. Cloyd	James Murphy
Mary Cheney	Victor Perreault

Terri Walden (Jan., 2006) - Our annual report is dedicated to the memory of Terri Walden, who served on the Council on Aging, Board of Health and Zoning Board of Appeals. She was also a former Library employee. She passed away January 11, 2006

Merrimac Council on Aging Mission Statement: *"To provide services designed to improve the quality of life of elders by assisting them to remain as physically mobile, mentally alert and socially active as possible. The Council on Aging advocates for older adults, manages the resources needed to develop services, provides education for seniors and their families regarding choices in their care and community services available to them."*

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Dillingham-Mailman, Executive Director	Colleen Ranshaw-Fiorello Chairwoman
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## MERRIMAC PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2006

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen,

The following are highlights of activities and achievements of the Merrimac Parks and Recreation Commission.

1. Ran another successful youth summer program with approximately 200 children.
2. Sponsored another successful tennis program at the town tennis courts.
3. Installed two benches donated by local residence at the park by the river.
4. Resurfaced the town tennis courts.
5. Installed a sign at the new basketball courts thanking donors for their time and efforts.
6. Developed plan for new field development at Emery Street fields.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Parks and Recreation Commission

John Lusty  
Scott Michelle  
Erick Kuchar  
Sue Marden  
Jay Soucy



## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF CEMETERIES

### TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

The Trustees meet the second Thursday of each month at the Cemetery Office, 2 Locust Grove Road. Officers for the past year: Chairman- Pat Casey, Clerk- Elizabeth Emery and member Gordon Rines. At the annual election Pat Casey was reelected to fill the three-year Trustee position.

Roadwork at Locust Grove Cemetery for 2005-2006 was completed with a finished coat of asphalt. Future plans include to reconstruction the gravel road in the back section of Locust Grove.

During the spring 6 Red maples were planted in the newer section.

There were 31 burials at Locust Grove Cemetery and 2 burials at Church Street Cemetery.

Lower Corner Cemetery, Church Street Cemetery and Locust Grove Cemetery were all kept well mowed and maintained throughout the past year.

Future plans include the repair of the stonewall at the Church Street Cemetery.

The Trustees would like to thank employee Harold White III for his dependable service, David Armstrong as part time employee and to the Highway Department for their co-operation and assistance during the year.

Members:	Gordon A. Rines	Term expires 2007
	Elizabeth L. Emery	Term expires 2008
	Patricia Casey	Term expires 2009

Respectfully Submitted,  
Elizabeth L. Emery, Clerk

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MERRIMAC CULTURAL COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 2006

The Merrimac Cultural Council is part of a grass-roots network of 335 local councils that serve every city and town in the state. The program is the largest, most decentralized one of its kind in the United States. The State Legislature provides an annual appropriation to the Massachusetts Cultural Council, which then allocates funds to each local council. Decisions about which activities to support are made at the community level by each local council, composed of a board of municipally appointed volunteers. For more information on the Merrimac Cultural Council, call 978-346-4426.

This year, the Merrimac Cultural Council awarded the following grants totaling \$4,000. The funds come from the state allocation as well as local fundraising events. The MCC also sponsors local events for cultural and fundraising purposes. In 2006 the MCC sponsored a chamber music concert in the spring and a country square dance in the fall.

### Grants:

Old Home Days Committee \$300

Merrimac Community Theatre, for staged readings, \$700

Ruth Harcovitz/Great Day for the Irish at the Senior Center, \$450

Beverly Mitchell/art lessons at the Senior Center, \$600

Mike Myers/Little Hands at Merrimac Public Library, \$350

Sharon Morley/Color Your World pastel workshop, \$350

Merrimac Public Library for Double Vision's "Mixed Nuts," \$400

Valley Players/Senior Night at Amesbury Playhouse, \$400

Pentucket Fine & Performing Arts/Sunday Series, \$450

### Merrimac Cultural Council Members:

Judy Flynn

Thelma Gibbs

Eleanor Hope-McCarthy (Secretary)

Helen Koolian

Nancy Perkins

Hanna Trautmann

Deborah Webster

Gage Cogswell (Chairman, Treasurer)



# WARRANT FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

5/01/2006

Essex, ss.

To one of the Constables of the Town of Merrimac:

GREETINGS, In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of Merrimac to meet in the Frederick N. Sweetsir School in Merrimac on May 1, 2006 at 7:45 PM to act on the following articles, namely:

**ARTICLE 1.** To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elective officers of the Town as provided by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 108 as amended: Moderator, Town Clerk, Three Selectmen, Three Assessors, Three Commissioner of Municipal Light, Three Water Commissioners, Three Sewer Commissioners, and raise, appropriate or transfer sums of money therefore and to determine sums of money raised to transferred to defray the necessary and usual charges and expenses of the Town for the Fiscal Year commencing July 1, 2006 and make appropriations for the same, said sums of money so raised, appropriated or transferred to be expended for specific purposes to be voted; or take any other action relative thereto.

Maturing Debt	\$ 1,013,542
Interest on Debt	374,830
General Gov. Unclassified	729,491
General Government	478,487
Public Safety	1,139,946
Health & Sanitation	49,314
Highway	416,347
Public Assistance	165,540
Whittier	330,188
Pentucket	4,582,873
Library	245,130
Recreation	60,715
Water	0
Cemetery	49,716
Total Omnibus	\$ 9,636,120
Selectmen Recommendation:	3-0-0
FinCom Recommendation:	6-0-0

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 2.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to operate the Wastewater (Sewer) Department Enterprise; or take any other action relative thereto.

Salaries:	\$ 313,054
Expenses:	404,195
Debt Service:	205,909
Total	\$ 923,158

And that \$ 923,158 be raised as follows:

Departmental Receipts: \$ 923,158

Rationale: To set FY2007 Budget for Sewer Department as an Enterprise Fund (Ch 44, S 53F1/2) as authorized beginning July 1, 2006 by Article 12 of the October 24, 2005 Special Town Meeting.

Selectmen Recommendation:	3-0-0
FinCom Recommendation:	6-0-0

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 3.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to operate the Water Department Enterprise; or take any other action relative thereto.

Salaries:	\$ 266,964
Expenses:	339,527
Debt Service:	143,419
Total	<u>\$ 749,910</u>

And that \$ 749,910 be raised as follows:

Departmental Receipts: \$ 749,910

Rationale: To set FY2007 Budget for Water Department as an Enterprise Fund (Ch 44, S 53F1/2) as authorized beginning July 1, 2006 by Article 13 of the October 24, 2005 Special Town Meeting.

Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0  
FinCom Recommendation: 6-0-0

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 4.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$10,000 (Ten thousand dollars) from the Electric Light Operating Balance, said money to be used by the Assessors as part of the estimated receipts used to fix the tax rate for the Fiscal Year commencing July 1, 2006; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This is treated as an "In Lieu of Tax Payment" from the Light Department, to offset some indirect overhead costs shared with the Town.

Selectmen Recommendation: 2-1-0  
FinCom Recommendation: 6-0-0

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 5.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds a sum of money in the amount of \$9,000 to be expended by the Board of Assessors to perform duties and incur expenses relating to any equalization or revaluation of the Town; to authorize the Board of Assessors to hire themselves at the rate of \$20.00 per hour and to hire such necessary assistance as the Board of Assessors may deem necessary and convenient; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This article allows the Board of Assessors the funds needed to measure and list new properties to establish "new growth" for the Town. This is listed as a special article because of the varying amount of building in the Town. This article remains open until all the funds are spent. By request of the Board of Assessors.

Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0  
FinCom Recommendation: 6-0-0

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 6.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds a sum of money in the amount of \$10,740 for revaluation to Assessors' Reserve Account; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This article allows the Board of Assessors to hire an outside consultant to perform an independent revaluation of the entire town, every three years, as required by the State. This is listed as a special article in order to raise 1/3 of the amount needed yearly, instead of raising the entire amount in one year. By request of the Board of Assessors.

Selectmen Recommendation: No Position  
FinCom Recommendation: 6-0-0

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 7.** To see if the Town will vote to accept the State Grant of Chapter 90 Highway Funds and authorize the Board of Selectmen to expend said funds for Highway purposes in accordance with the terms of said grants.

Rationale: This article allows the Town to accept State Transportation Aide to help maintain Town roadways.

Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0  
FinCom Recommendation: 6-0-0

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 8.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$11,100 from the Water Pollution Abatement Trust (WPAT) Loan Repayment Receipts Reserved to be used as available funds in support of



debt service payments associated with Title V Septic Loan Repayment Principal and Interest for FY2007; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This article allows the Town to use the funds received from Title IV loan repayments made by the taxpayers to pay for the debt service due on the Title IV loans.

<b>Selectmen Recommendation:</b>	<b>3-0-0</b>
<b>FinCom Recommendation:</b>	<b>6-0-0</b>

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 9.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds a sum of money in the amount of \$160,000 for Solid Waste Recycling and Disposal; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This article is the portion of solid waste recycling and disposal that is supported by the tax rate. This is listed as a special article because of the variability in disposal costs. The article remains open until all funds are spent.

<b>Selectmen Recommendation:</b>	<b>3-0-0</b>
<b>FinCom Recommendation:</b>	<b>6-0-0</b>

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 10.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Trash Offset Receipts, a sum of money in the amount of \$120,000 for Solid Waste Recycling and Disposal; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This article allows the Town to use the money collected through the sale of Trash Stickers to pay for solid waste recycling and disposal.

<b>Selectmen Recommendation:</b>	<b>3-0-0</b>
<b>FinCom Recommendation:</b>	<b>6-0-0</b>

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 11.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Trash Offset Receipts, a sum of money in the amount of \$6,000 for collection of Household Hazardous Waste and Leaf Collection; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This article allows the Town to use the money collected through the sale of Trash Stickers to pay for Household Hazardous Waste and Leaf Collection.

<b>Selectmen Recommendation:</b>	<b>3-0-0</b>
<b>FinCom Recommendation:</b>	<b>6-0-0</b>

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 12.** To see if the town will vote to transfer \$ 41,000 from the Sewer Capital Development Fund, for the purchase of a new truck; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This will allow the Sewer Department to purchase an additional truck for their department. The current truck is a 1982 dump truck. Per request of the Sewer Commissioners.

<b>Selectmen Recommendation:</b>	<b>3-0-0</b>
<b>FinCom Recommendation:</b>	<b>5-1-0</b>

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 13.** To see if the town will vote to transfer \$ 30,000 from the Sewer Capital Fund, for the purchase of a new generator; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This will allow the Sewer Department to replace their 25 year old generator. The parts for the old generator are difficult to find, and repairs are costly. Per request of the Sewer Commissioners.

<b>Selectmen Recommendation:</b>	<b>3-0-0</b>
<b>FinCom Recommendation:</b>	<b>6-0-0</b>

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 14.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds known as "Sale of Cemetery Lots", a sum of money in the amount of \$3,675, such sum or part thereof, to be expended under the direction of the Cemetery Trustees for the "care, improvement and embellishment" of said cemeteries, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 114, Section 15 and 25; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This allows the Cemetery Trustees to use their revenue that has been reserved for their use, to maintain the town cemeteries. By request of the Cemetery Trustees.

**Selectmen Recommendation:** 3-0-0  
**FinCom Recommendation:** 6-0-0

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 15.** To see if the Town will transfer \$35,000 from the Water Capital Fund, for the purchase of a Water Department Utility Truck to replace an existing vehicle; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This article will allow the Water Department to transfer from their Water Capital Fund the amount necessary to purchase a new truck to replace an existing vehicle. By request of the Water Department.

**Selectmen Recommendation:** No Position  
**FinCom Recommendation:** 6-0-0

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 16.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the town by-laws to include a "Merrimac Rental Housing By-Law". (Exhibit A - Available for viewing at the office of the Town Clerk); or take other action relative thereto.

Rationale: Merrimac has an increasing rental housing inventory. Many of these dwelling units have never been inspected for fundamental building code and fire safety issues. The proposed By-law requires the owner, manager, or person in charge of a rental dwelling unit to apply for and obtain a Certificate of Rental Compliance as soon as a rental unit is vacated or a new rental unit is created. Such inspection and repairs, if necessary, shall be completed before allowing re-occupancy of any rental dwelling unit. This will require a 2/3 vote. By request of the Inspectional Services Department and the Fire Department.

**Selectmen Recommendation:** 3-0-0  
**FinCom Recommendation:** N/A

*Passed to table this Article*

**ARTICLE 17.** To see if the Town will vote pursuant to M.G.L., Chapter 44, Section 53E \_ to establish revolving funds for the following departments for the specific purpose outlined below for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006 and ending June 30, 2007; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: By M.G.L. all 53E \_ Revolving Accounts must be reauthorized annually. This article allows for the reauthorization of all existing 53E \_ Revolving Accounts. There are two new revolving accounts this year; the Rental Housing Re-Inspection Revolving Fund and the Assessor's Map Update Revolving Fund.

**a. Police Firearms Revolving Fund**

Fees received for firearms licenses and permit fees to be used to pay the state share of such fees and similar departmental needs, said expenditures to be approved by the Police Chief; and not to exceed \$5,000 during the fiscal year 2007.

**b. Zoning Board of Appeal Revolving Fund**

Fees received for applicants requesting appeal of zoning decisions to be used to pay for advertising, mailings, legal and administrative costs, said expenditures to be approved by the Zoning Board of Appeals; not to exceed \$4,000 during the fiscal year 2007.

**c. Board of Health Town Nurse Revolving Fund**

Fees received for nursing programs and services to be used by the Town Nurse to pay for materials and technical services for nursing programs and health promotion programs, said expenditures to be approved by the Board of Health; not to exceed \$5,000 during fiscal year 2007.

**d. Chapter 40B Revolving Fund**

Fees received from developers for Chapter 40B applications to be used to pay for plan reviews, inspections and related legal and administrative costs, said expenditures to be approved by the Board of Selectmen; not to exceed \$50,000 during the fiscal year 2007.

**e. Playground Revolving Fund**

Fees received for Summer Playground Programs to be used to pay seasonal staff and related costs, said expenditures to be approved by the Playground Commissioners; not to exceed \$16,000 during the fiscal year 2007.

**f. Zoning Bylaw and Building Code Compliance Enforcement Fund**

5% of all fees received from building, wiring, plumbing and gas permits plus 100% of all fines and monetary judgments received as a result of Inspectional Services Department compliance enforcement actions to be



used by Inspectional Services Department for legal fees and administrative costs relative to Zoning Bylaw and Building Code compliance enforcement actions; said expenditures to be approved by the Building Commissioner, not to exceed \$5,000 during fiscal year 2007.

**g. Board of Health Project Revolving Fund**

50% of all permit fees received for the Bear Hill Road and Quail Ridge/Battis Road Subdivisions to be used by the Board of Health to pay for tests and inspections for these two projects; said expenditures to be approved by the Board of Health; not to exceed \$2,500 during the fiscal year 2007.

**h. Rental Housing Re-Inspection Revolving Fund**

Fees received from rental housing re-inspection receipts shall be used to pay for field supplies associated with performing requested inspections, office supplies, administrative oversight and record keeping, payment made for Compliance Inspector(s) service; said expenditures shall be reviewed and authorized by signatures of both the Building Inspector and the Fire Chief; not to exceed \$5,000 during the fiscal year 2007.

Note: Contingent upon the passage of the "Merrimac Rental Housing By-Law"

**i. Assessor's Map Update Revolving Fund**

Fees received from the creation of new lots to be used by the Assessors to pay for updates of the Town maps; said expenditures to be approved by the Board of Assessors; not to exceed \$5,000 during the fiscal year 2007.

<b>Selectmen Recommendation:</b>	<b>3-0-0</b>
<b>FinCom Recommendation:</b>	<b>6-0-0</b>

*Passed with the exception of Fund H "Rental Housing Re-Inspection Revolving Fund" for Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2006 and ending June 30, 2007.*

**ARTICLE 18.** To see if the Town of Merrimac will raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money in the amount of \$1,000 for the funding of a M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53E \_ , revolving account to be used by the Inspectional Services Department for deposit of all rental housing re-inspection receipts. Such receipts shall be used to pay for field supplies associated with performing requested inspections, office supplies, administrative oversight and record keeping, payment made for Compliance Inspector(s) service; or take any other action relative thereto.

Note: Contingent upon the passage of the "Merrimac Rental Housing By-Law" (Article 16)

Rationale: Contingent upon passage of the "Merrimac Rental Housing By-Law" (Article 16), this article will authorize the initial funding of \$1,000 for implementation costs associated with the by-law.

<b>Selectmen Recommendation:</b>	<b>3-0-0</b>
<b>FinCom Recommendation:</b>	<b>6-0-0</b>

*Passed to table this Article*

**ARTICLE 19.** To see if the Town of Merrimac will, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 4A, authorize the Merrimac Board of Health to enter into an intermunicipal agreement with one or more other governmental units to provide public health services which the Board of Health is authorized to perform, in accordance with an Intermunicipal Mutual Aid Agreement to be entered into between the Town and various governmental units; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: The agreement is intended for use when "the resources normally available to any municipality are not sufficient to cope with a situation which requires public health action." The agreement is intended to cover situations where local resources are insufficient to meet an unusual need, which may or may not rise to the level of a declared emergency. However, the agreement is not intended to substitute for the ordinary public health activities of any city or town. The sending agency does not have to charge, and the receiving agency does not have to pay, for mutual aid. By request of the Board of Health.

<b>Selectmen Recommendation:</b>	<b>3-0-0</b>
<b>FinCom Recommendation:</b>	<b>N/A</b>

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 20.** To see if the Town of Merrimac will vote to accept M.G.L. Chapter 32B in its entirety, with the exception of Section 7A, to provide a plan of group life insurance, group accidental death and dismemberment insurance and group general or blanket hospital, surgical, medical, dental and other health insurance for certain persons in the service of the Town of Merrimac and their dependents; or take any other action relative thereto.



Rationale: This article is to officially allow the Town to offer group health insurance to its employees and retirees at a 50% contribution rate.

Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0  
FinCom Recommendation: N/A

Passed

**ARTICLE 21.** To see if the Town of Merrimac will vote, pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 40 Section 4 and Section 4A, to authorize the Town of Groveland Water and Sewer Commission to enter into an intermunicipal agreement, for a term not to exceed 25 years, between the Town and the Pentucket Regional School District, whereby the Water and Sewer Commission will assume responsibility, among other things, for the operation and maintenance of certain sewer facilities; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This article is needed to allow Groveland to assume responsibility for the maintenance and care, and upgrading the capacity of the pumping station. The pumping station is owned by the Pentucket Regional School District, which requires all three Towns to approve this article. This will allow Groveland to use that pumping station instead of building a separate station. The current pumping station is in need of major repairs, without this agreement, the repairs would be the responsibility of the district. By the request of the Town of Groveland Water and Sewer Department.

Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0  
FinCom Recommendation: N/A

Passed

**ARTICLE 22.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the town by-laws to include a Water Use By-Law. (Exhibit B – Available for viewing at the office of the Town Clerk); or take other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This by-law would guide contractors, developers and homeowners in the procedures required for Water Main and Water Service equipment and installation. It would clarify policies and procedures for billing, termination of service and extensions and connections. The by-law has been approved and supported by the Board of Water Commissioners. This will require a 2/3 vote. By request of the Water Department.

Selectmen Recommendation: N/A  
FinCom Recommendation: N/A

Passed

**ARTICLE 23.** To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 21D, which permits Non Criminal Disposition of Violation of certain Town by-laws and to amend the Town of Merrimac By-Laws by adding the following section:

Enforcement:

- a. Criminal Complaint: Whoever violates any provision of these by-laws may be penalized by indictment or on complaint brought in the district court. Except as otherwise provided by law and as the district court may see fit to impose, the maximum penalty for each violation, or offense, brought in this manner, shall be three hundred dollars.
- b. Non-Criminal Disposition: Whoever violates any provision of these by-laws, the violation of which is subject to a specific penalty, may be penalized by a non-criminal disposition as provided by M.G.. Chapter 40, Section 21D. The non-criminal method of disposition may also be used for violations of any rule or regulation of any municipal officer, board, or department which is subject to a specific penalty.

Without intending to limit the generality of the foregoing, it is the intention of this provision that the following by-laws and sections of the by-laws are to be included within the scope of this subsection, that the specific penalties as listed here shall apply in such cases and that in addition to police officers, who shall in all cases be considered enforcing persons for the purpose of this provision, the municipal personnel listed for each action, if any, shall also be the enforcing persons for each section. Each day upon which any violation exists shall be deemed a separate offense.

Article	Section	Description	Fine
V	V	Depositing of snow onto Public Ways .....	\$ 50.00
V	VIII	Littering on Town Property .....	250.00
VI	IX	Defacing of official signs .....	20.00
VI	XIV	Operation of "personal watercraft" .....	200.00



Article	Section	Description	Fine
VI	XV	Recreational Motorized Vehicles – 1st Offense .....	25.00
		Subsequent Offense .....	50.00
VII	V	Unregistered used motor vehicles .....	20.00
VIII	III	Building without permit .....	50.00
XI	I	Wells and wells coverings .....	100.00-500.00
XIII	II	Depositing of rubbish .....	20.00
XIII	IV	Rubbish spilled while transporting .....	20.00
XV	VI	Pool by-law violations .....	50.00
XV	XII	Dog creating nuisance – 1st Offense .....	Warning
		2nd Offense .....	15.00
		Subsequent Offense .....	25.00
XV	XIII	Leash by-law violation – 1st Offense .....	15.00
		2nd Offense .....	25.00
		Subsequent Offense .....	50.00
XV	XIV	Unlicensed dog – After June 1st .....	20.00
		After July 1st .....	25.00
		After August 1st .....	35.00
XV	XVII	Animal Waste on public property - 1st Offence .....	10.00
		Subsequent Offense .....	20.00
XXIII	IX	Water supply conservation by-law violations	
		1st Offense .....	50.00
		2nd Offense .....	100.00
XXIV	I	Rain sensor by-law violations – 1st Offense .....	Warning
		2nd Offense .....	50.00

; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This will enable better enforcement and collection of fines for violations for all by-law violations for the Town. This will require a 2/3 vote. Per the request of Animal Control Officer.

Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0  
FinCom Recommendation: N/A

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 24.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to file a petition with the Great and General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in compliance with the Constitution of the Commonwealth for enactment of an act to establish a Recall Provision By-Law for the Town of Merrimac; or take other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This will allow the Selectmen to petition the Court to file the necessary legislation to authorize the Recall Provision By-Law. This will require a 2/3 vote. Per the request of Board of Selectmen.

Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0  
FinCom Recommendation: N/A

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 24A.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the town by-laws to include a "Recall Provision By-Law". (Exhibit C – Available for viewing at the office of the Town Clerk); or take other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This will allow that any holder of an elective office in the Town of Merrimac may be recalled by the registered voters of the town. This will require a 2/3 vote. Per the request of Board of Selectmen.

Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0  
FinCom Recommendation: N/A

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 25.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town By-Laws, Article I, Section I to change "first Monday in May at 8:00 PM." to "last Monday in April at 7:30 PM" ; and "second Monday in May" to "first Monday in May" ; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: The purpose of this article is to change the date of the Annual Town Meeting and the Election to coincide

with Groveland and West Newbury. This will require a 2/3 vote.

**Selectmen Recommendation:** 3-0-0  
**FinCom Recommendation:** N/A

*Passed*

## **PENTUCKET REGIONAL AGREEMENT ARTICLES**

**ARTICLE 26.** To see if the town will vote to amend the Pentucket Regional School District Agreement by re-lettering Section X. BUDGET A TO B and inserting a new subsection A as follows:

- A. There shall be a regional finance advisory committee, comprised of the following: one selectmen from each member town annually appointed by each member town Board of Selectmen; the finance director, or person holding such position by whichever title it may be known, from each member town; the Regional District School Committee Chair, or his/her designee; and the District Superintendent and/or Business Manager. The regional finance advisory committee will meet, from time to time, with the Regional District School Committee Chair, the Superintendent and/or Business Manager to discuss financial matters that may impact the District and/or the towns, including budget calendars and timelines, content and detail of budgets, revenue estimates and other revenue matters, capital budget items and use of excess and deficiency funds. The chairmanship of the Advisory Committee shall rotate annually among the members from each of the towns.

; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: Formally establishing a Regional Finance Advisory Committee promotes a working relationship between town officials and the school administration. Per the request of the Board of Selectmen.

**Selectmen Recommendation:** 3-0-0  
**FinCom Recommendation:** 6-0-0

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 27.** To see if the town will vote to amend the Pentucket Regional School District Agreement by adding to the end of Section XIII AMENDMENTS the following new subsection:

- C. This agreement will be reviewed every three years, after the adoption of this Article, by a task force formed by the member town's Board of Selectmen and will also include representation from the Regional District School Committee. The membership shall consist of four members appointed by each member town's Board of Selectmen, one of whom shall be a member from each town's Board of Selectmen and their alternate and one of whom shall be a citizen from each member town and their alternate. Also the Regional District School Committee shall appoint one of its members to the task force and one member to serve as an alternate.

; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: Currently the agreement does not stipulate a review timeframe. The task force is recommending the regional agreement be reviewed every three years to ensure the agreement stays current. Per the request of the Board of Selectmen.

**Selectmen Recommendation:** 3-0-0  
**FinCom Recommendation:** N/A

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 28.** To see if the town will vote to amend the Pentucket Regional School District agreement by deleting Section I-1-A MEMBERSHIP OF THE REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE and Section I-2-C QUORUMS, VOTES AND GOVERNANCE in their entirety and inserting in place thereof the following:

- I-1-A. Commencing with the annual 2007 town elections, and subject to any necessary approvals, the Regional District School Committee shall consist of nine members, three from each member town, who shall be elected by the voters of that town. Each member so selected shall serve a three year term; provided that, seat 4 in each town will be eliminated upon the expiration of said term in 2007; provided further that, in the Town of Merrimac upon the expiration of the term for seat 2 in 2008, said term shall be for two years and will upon its expiration revert to a three year term.



I-2-C. Any action voted by the Regional District School Committee which directly and specifically affects the elementary school(s) in only one town shall require that two of the three members of the Regional District School Committee from the town in which the affected elementary school is located vote in support of that action. In order, however, for a school to be closed in any member town where there is more than one elementary school, all three committee members from the affected town are required to vote in favor of the proposed closure after a public hearing is held in the affected town.

; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: Reducing the number of members will allow the committee to be more efficient and productive. Also with fewer school committee seats to fill, it encourages more competition for the available seats. Per the request of the Board of Selectmen.

Selectmen Recommendation:	3-0-0
FinCom Recommendation:	N/A

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 29.** To see if the town will vote to amend the Pentucket Regional School District Agreement by deleting Section V-2.A 1&2 METHOD OF ASSESSING COSTS OF THE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT and inserting in place thereof the following:

#### SECTION V-2

A. Commencing with the assessment for fiscal year 2008 and every fiscal year thereafter, all operating costs shall be assessed to the member towns, in a manner consistent with the provisions of M.G.L.c. 70, §6, concerning contributions by municipalities for support of local schools and school districts. Each town shall annually appropriate an amount equal to but not less than the sum of the minimum required local contribution (as defined in M.G.L.c. 70).

The district operating cost will be calculated and reported to the member towns as follows:

1. Compute the total district wide assessment for the operating budget defined in Section V-1.A Budget by reducing the operating budget as follows:

Less all district revenue itemized separately to include but not limited to:

Interest income  
Revolving accounts  
Grants  
Student Fees

Less other offsets itemized separately to include but not limited to:

Medicaid Reimbursement

Less all federal and state aid received by the District.

2. Establish the minimum contributions to be assessed to each member town. Any amount of the total district wide assessment that exceeds the total of the minimum contributions (as defined in M.G.L.c. 70) shall be apportioned to the member towns on the basis established in Section V-2.A. 3.

3. Compute the additional assessment for operating costs for each member town by dividing the additional assessment for the operating budget by the total school population defined as all pupils for whom the district is financially responsible are counted, including pupils being tuitioned elsewhere through school committee agreement, school choice, the charter school program, etc., for the prior year's October 1 school census from the member towns.

; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: Based on a member town's portion of Chapter 70 state aid, along with the town's state mandated local minimum contribution, all three member towns contribute the same per pupil. Per the request of the Board of Selectmen.

Selectmen Recommendation:	3-0-0
FinCom Recommendation:	6-0-0

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 30.** To see if the town will vote to amend the Pentucket Regional School District Agreement by deleting Section X. A 3, 5 & 6 BUDGET and renumbering the remaining paragraphs accordingly and inserting in place thereof the following:

Section X.

A.3. On or about March 1st of each year the Regional District School Committee shall adopt by a two-thirds vote of all its members a budget with such changes as may have resulted from conferences and an open hearing. Within ten (10) days from the date on which the budget is adopted, the Treasurer of the District shall certify to the Treasurer of each member town its assessed share of such budget.

A.5. A majority vote of the voters present and voting on the question at an annual town meeting in two (2) out of three (3) towns is needed to approve the town's apportioned share of the regional school district budget.

; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: To align the regional agreement with State law Chapter 71, Section 16B, which states the annual regional school district budget as adopted by a two-thirds vote of the regional school committee shall require the approval of two-thirds of the local appropriating authorities of the member municipalities. Per the request of the Board of Selectmen.

Selectmen Recommendation:	3-0-0
FinCom Recommendation:	N/A

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 31.** To see if the town will vote to amend the Pentucket Regional School District Agreement in Section XIII AMENDMENTS A by inserting after the phrase "town meeting" in the first sentence thereof the following: "except as noted in the final subsection." And by adding to the end of Section XIII – AMENDMENTS the following new subsection C:

The following sections of the Regional Agreement may have a financial impact on the member towns and therefore require a ballot vote at Annual Town election:

Section V-1. DEFINITIONS

Section V-2. METHODS OF ASSESSING COSTS OF THE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Section VI. RESPONSIBILITIES FOR ADDITIONS, MAJOR REPLACEMENTS AND MAINTENANCE OF SECONDARY AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Section X. BUDGET

; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: A ballot vote is a truer picture of the direction a community wants to take. Taking a ballot vote at Town election versus a vote at town meeting eliminates the ability to stack town meeting to pass an amendment to the regional agreement. Per the request of the Board of Selectmen.

Selectmen Recommendation:	3-0-0
FinCom Recommendation:	6-0-0

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 32.** To see if the town will vote to amend the Pentucket Regional School District Agreement by deleting reference to "V-3.B" in Section VI. RESPONSIBILITY FOR ADDITIONS, MAJOR REPLACEMENTS AND MAINTENANCE OF SECONDARY AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS, and substituting in place thereof the reference to "V-2.B."; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: To change a reference which mistakenly is V-3. B to V-2. B. Per the request of the Board of Selectmen.

Selectmen Recommendation:	3-0-0
FinCom Recommendation:	N/A

*Passed*



# WARRANT FOR SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

5/01/2006

Essex, ss.

To one of the Constables of the Town of Merrimac:

GREETINGS, In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of Merrimac to meet in the Frederick N. Sweetsir School in Merrimac on May 2, 2005 at 7:30 PM to act on the following articles, namely:

**ARTICLE 1.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer various sums of money to supplement various town employees salaries and department expense accounts in the FY2006 Omnibus Budget; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This article is a housekeeping article, to take care of some oversights, and to allow Finance Committee some access to additional funds to be used at their discretion. By request of the Finance Director.

<b>Selectmen Recommendation:</b>	<b>3-0-0</b>
<b>FinCom Recommendation:</b>	<b>6-0-0</b>

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 2.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer various sums of money to the Stabilization Fund; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This article is to transfer surpluses within the FY2006 Omnibus to the Stabilization Fund. This will require a 2/3 vote. By request of the Finance Director.

<b>Selectmen Recommendation:</b>	<b>3-0-0</b>
<b>FinCom Recommendation:</b>	<b>6-0-0</b>

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 3.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$2,084,651 to pay its share of the assessment of the Pentucket Regional School District Budget for Fiscal Year 2007, based on the state recommended Assessment Method (Two-Step), with \$1,231,700 contingent upon the successful passage of a levy limit override question in the amount of \$1,231,700 on May 8, 2006 under Mass. General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: These additional funds are what is known as the "Supplemental Budget" for FY2007. The amount requested is the difference between the FY2006 adjusted budget and the FY2007 School Committee voted budget, based on the state recommended Assessment Method (Two-Step). The state recommended method of assessment is a different method than what is stipulated in the regional agreement. By request of the Board of Selectmen.

<b>Selectmen Recommendation:</b>	<b>1-2-0</b>
<b>FinCom Recommendation:</b>	<b>5-1-0</b>

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 4.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds a sum of money in the amount of \$150,993, for the following specific purpose outlined below; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This article allows the Town to transfer funds from Free Cash to various one-time expenses within the Town budget. The Town must also recognize and transfer the surpluses raised in the Wastewater (Sewer) and Water departments.

- a. \$10,600 for the purchase of a Pitney Bowes D1350 Folder/Inserter Machine, for use in the Tax Collector's and Town Clerk's Offices.

<b>Selectmen Recommendation:</b>	<b>0-3-0</b>
<b>FinCom Recommendation:</b>	<b>0-6-0</b>

- b. \$5,000 for roadwork at Locust Grove Cemetery.

<b>Selectmen Recommendation:</b>	<b>2-1-0</b>
<b>FinCom Recommendation:</b>	<b>0-6-0</b>

- c. \$20,000 for the repair of the stonewall at the Church Street Cemetery.  
     **Selectmen Recommendation:**                 1-2-0  
     **FinCom Recommendation:**                 0-6-0
- d. \$12,900 for the purchase of 3 Air-packs for the Fire Department.  
     **Selectmen Recommendation:**                 3-0-0  
     **FinCom Recommendation:**                 6-0-0
- e. \$4,500 to fix drainage problems at the Donaghue Schools.  
     **Selectmen Recommendation:**                 0-3-0  
     **FinCom Recommendation:**                 1-5-0
- f. \$34,000 for the purchase of a new Police Cruiser for the Police Department.  
     **Selectmen Recommendation:**                 1-2-0  
     **FinCom Recommendation:**                 2-4-0
- g. \$9,000 for the purchase of firearms for the Police Department.  
     **Selectmen Recommendation:**                 3-0-0  
     **FinCom Recommendation:**                 6-0-0
- h. \$9,500 for the driveway repairs at the Senior Center.  
     **Selectmen Recommendation:**                 2-1-0  
     **FinCom Recommendation:**                 0-6-0
- i. To transfer \$7,943 to the Sewer Capital Fund for the FY2005 Wastewater (Sewer) Surplus.  
     **Selectmen Recommendation:**                 3-0-0  
     **FinCom Recommendation:**                 6-0-0
- j. To transfer \$37,550 to the Water Capital Fund for the FY2005 Water Surplus.  
     **Selectmen Recommendation:**                 3-0-0  
     **FinCom Recommendation:**                 6-0-0

*Passed as Amended*

The Town voted to appropriate from Free Cash a sum of money in the amount of \$67,393. (Sixty seven thousand three hundred ninety three) to be expended for the purposes indicated below.

- d. \$12,900.00 for the purchase of 3 Air-packs for the Fire Department.
- g. \$9,000.00 for the purchase of firearms for the Police Department.
- i. To transfer \$7,943.00 to the Sewer Capital Fund for the FY2005 Wastewater (Sewer) Surplus.
- j. To transfer \$37,550.00 to Water Capital Fund for the FY2005 Water Surplus.

**ARTICLE 5.** To see if the town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash a sum of money in the amount of \$119,201 to be transferred to the Stabilization Account; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This article will transfer the balance of Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund. This will require a 2/3 vote.

**Selectmen Recommendation:**                 3-0-0  
**FinCom Recommendation:**                 6-0-0

*Passed as Amended*

The Town voted to appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$202,801.00 (Two hundred two thousand eight hundred and one) to the Stabilization Fund, the funding for this appropriation to be from FREE CASH.

**ARTICLE 6.** To see if the Town will vote to close out Article #11 of the FY2005 Annual Town Meeting, Body Repair of Ambulance, and transfer the balance in the amount of \$2,000 for new or replacement of 4 EMT jackets for ambulance personnel; or take any other action thereto.

Rationale: The Fire Department needs 4 New EMT Jackets to replace the current 12 Year old jackets for safety reasons. The department is requesting to transfer the balance in the FY2005 ambulance repair special article to this special article. The Town purchased a new ambulance in FY2006, therefore the special article to repair the old ambulance will not be needed. By request of the Fire Department.

**Selectmen Recommendation:**                 3-0-0  
**FinCom Recommendation:**                 5-1-0

*Passed*



**ARTICLE 7.** To see if the Town will vote to close out Article #10 of the 10/24/05 FY2006 Special Town Meeting, Replace Three Overhead Doors, and transfer the balance in the amount of \$3,085.59 to the Water Capital Fund; or take any other action thereto.

Rationale: The project to replace 3 overhead doors at the E. Main St. Pump Station is complete, leaving a balance of \$3,085.59. To close out this article the Water Department would like to transfer the funds remaining to the Water Capital Fund. Funds for this project were originally transferred from the Water Capital Fund. By request of the Water Department.

Selectmen Recommendation:	3-0-0
FinCom Recommendation:	6-0-0

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 8.** To see if the Town will vote to close out Article #11 of the FY2001 Annual Town Meeting, E. Main St. Wellfield Documentation Plans, and transfer the balance in the amount of \$1,480.70 to the Water Privilege Fund; or take any other action thereto.

Rationale: The Documentation Plans for the E. Main St. Wellfield are complete, leaving a balance of \$1,480.70. To close out this article the Water Department would like to transfer the funds remaining to the Water Privilege Fund. Funds for this project were originally transferred from the Water Privilege Fund. By request of the Water Department.

Selectmen Recommendation:	3-0-0
FinCom Recommendation:	6-0-0

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 9.** To see if the Town will vote to close out Article #10 of the 10/14/98 FY1999 Special Town Meeting, Haverhill Cross Connection, and transfer the balance in the amount of \$296.41 to FY2007 Water Department Municipal Purpose \$420K Debt Service, as authorized by M.G.L Chapter 44, Section 20; or take any other action thereto.

Rationale: The Haverhill Cross Connection project is complete, leaving a balance of \$296.41. To close out this article the Water Department would like to transfer the funds remaining to pay down the balance due on the debt service, as authorized by M.G.L. By request of the Water Department.

Selectmen Recommendation:	3-0-0
FinCom Recommendation:	6-0-0

*Passed*

Motion was made and seconded to withdraw Articles 10-18 all dealing with amendments to the Merrimac Zoning By-law, these articles will be dealt with at a special town meeting warranted for May 15, 2006.

**ARTICLE 10.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law by deleting the existing definition of ABANDONMENT in Article 2 Definitions and replacing it with the following new definition: "ABANDONMENT: Cessation or discontinuance of a nonconforming use of a building or premises for a period of two years or more; or the removal of the characteristic equipment or furnishings used in the nonconforming use, without its replacement by similar equipment or furnishings; or the replacement of the nonconforming use or building by a conforming use or building; or cessation or discontinuance of a nonconforming use with the apparent intent to initiate a conforming use and/or structure. "Intent" shall include, but is not limited to, applications for permits and advertising to rent or lease for conforming purposes"; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: To more clearly define ABANDONMENT. By request of the Planning Board.

Selectmen Recommendation:	N/A
FinCom Recommendation:	N/A

**ARTICLE 11.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law Article 15 Open Space Residential Development, Section 15.11 Dimensional Standards, by deleting the words "except as provided below" before the semi-colon in the second sentence and inserting in their place the words, "subject to the following requirements"; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: Correction of a typographical error in this section. By request of the Planning Board.

Selectmen Recommendation:	N/A
FinCom Recommendation:	N/A



**ARTICLE 12.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law **Article 8 Village Center District (VC)**, Section 8.2 Permitted Uses and Structures, Subsection 8.2.5.1 to read "Accessory dwelling unit above the ground floor of a building occupied by a minimum of 30% commercial uses"; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: To define the currently "principally by commercial uses" as " 30% commercial uses". By request of the Planning Board.

<b>Selectmen Recommendation:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>FinCom Recommendation:</b>	<b>N/A</b>

**ARTICLE 13.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law **Article 16 Regulations For Assisted Living Facilities and Elderly Housing**, Section 16.3 Over-55 Elderly Housing, Subsection 16.3.3 by deleting the words, " an assisted living facility" and replacing them with "over-55 elderly housing"; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: Correction of a typographical error. By request of the Planning Board.

<b>Selectmen Recommendation:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>FinCom Recommendation:</b>	<b>N/A</b>

**ARTICLE 14.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law **Article 12 Rural-Agricultural Preservation District**, Section 12.7 Use, Dimensional and Design Standards for Small-Area Cluster Development by inserting a comma after the word FRONTAGE, delete the word "and" thereafter and insert words, "and lot area" after the words "lot shape" and in Subsection 12.7.2 add the following sentence at the end of the subsection to read," the Planning Board may authorize a reduction in lot area or the placement of more than one building on a single lot in order to achieve the purposes of this by-law, provided that the SACD shall not have more than the number of dwelling units that could be built if the site were divided into individual house lots, each meeting the minimum lot area requirement of the Agricultural Residential District"; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: To reduce lot area and placement to better implement the bylaw, by request of the Planning Board.

<b>Selectmen Recommendation:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>FinCom Recommendation:</b>	<b>N/A</b>

**ARTICLE 15.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law, **Article 4 Village Residential District (VR)**, Section 4.6 Dimensional Setback and Intensity Regulations, Subsection 4.6.6 by changing the Maximum LOT COVERAGE from 50% to 40%; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: To strengthen the lot coverage maximum. By request of the Planning Board.

<b>Selectmen Recommendation:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>FinCom Recommendation:</b>	<b>N/A</b>

**ARTICLE 16.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law **Article 4 Village Residential District (VR)**, Section 4.4 Uses and Structures Permitted by Special Permit; **Article 5 Suburban Residential District (SR)** Section 5.4 Uses and Structures Permitted by Special Permit and **Article 6 Agricultural Residential District (AR)**, Section 6.4 Uses and Structures Permitted by Special Permit, by adding before the semi-colon and after the word "uses", the following; "except that where an accessory apartment or the conversion of a single-family to a multi-family dwelling is allowed by SPECIAL PERMIT, the Special Permit Granting Authority shall be the Board of Appeals in accordance with **Article 17 Accessory Dwelling Units and Conversion of Existing Single-Family Dwellings**"; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: To correct confusion regarding the Special Permit Granting Authority, for Accessory Units. By request of the Planning Board.

<b>Selectmen Recommendation:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>FinCom Recommendation:</b>	<b>N/A</b>

**ARTICLE 17.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law, **Article 25 Appeals** Section 25.13 Standards for Variances; by adding the following "25.13.3 The Board of Appeals shall not approve any changes in the uses permitted in any zoning district or approve any modification of the requirements of the Zoning By-law that would have the effect of allowing the establishment of a use not otherwise permitted"; or take any other action relative thereto



Rationale: To disallow use variances. By request of the Planning Board.

Selectmen Recommendation:	N/A
FinCom Recommendation:	N/A

**ARTICLE 18.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Official Zoning Map, as approved by the Town Meeting of May 3, 2004 and as on file at the office of the Town Clerk, by correcting an error in zoning district designation of parcel 43-1-9A and parcel 43-1-9B, (commonly known as Atwood TV Plaza), from the currently incorrect zoning district designation of **Village Residential** to the correct zoning district designation of **Rural Highway**; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: To correct an error in the zoning designation on the Zoning Map. By request of the Planning Board.

Selectmen Recommendation:	N/A
FinCom Recommendation:	N/A

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## WARRANT FOR SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

5/15/2006

Essex, ss.

To one of the Constables of the Town of Merrimac:

GREETINGS, In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of Merrimac to meet in the Frederick N. Sweetsir School in Merrimac on May 15, 2006 at 7:30 PM to act on the following articles, namely:

**ARTICLE 1.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law by deleting the existing definition of ABANDONMENT in **Article 2 Definitions** and replacing it with the following new definition: "ABANDONMENT: Cessation or discontinuance of a nonconforming use of a building or premises for a period of two years or more; or the removal of the characteristic equipment or furnishings used in the nonconforming use, without its replacement by similar equipment or furnishings; or the replacement of the nonconforming use or building by a conforming use or building; or cessation or discontinuance of a nonconforming use with the apparent intent to initiate a conforming use and/or structure. "Intent" shall include, but is not limited to, applications for permits and advertising to rent or lease for conforming purposes"; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: To more clearly define ABANDONMENT. By request of the Planning Board.

Selectmen Recommendation:	N/A
FinCom Recommendation:	N/A

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 2.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law **Article 15 Open Space Residential Development**, Section 15.11 Dimensional Standards, by deleting the words "except as provided below" before the semi-colon in the second sentence and inserting in their place the words, "subject to the following requirements"; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: Correction of a typographical error in this section. By request of the Planning Board.

Selectmen Recommendation:	N/A
FinCom Recommendation:	N/A

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 3.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law **Article 8 Village Center District (VC)**, Section 8.2 Permitted Uses and Structures, Subsection 8.2.5.1 to read "Accessory dwelling unit above the ground floor of a building occupied by a minimum of 30% commercial uses"; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: To define the currently "principally by commercial uses" as "30% commercial uses". By request of the Planning Board.

Selectmen Recommendation: N/A  
FinCom Recommendation: N/A

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 4.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law **Article 16 Regulations For Assisted Living Facilities and Elderly Housing**, Section 16.3 Over-55 Elderly Housing, Subsection 16.3.3 by deleting the words, " an assisted living facility" and replacing them with "over-55 elderly housing"; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: Correction of a typographical error. By request of the Planning Board.

Selectmen Recommendation: N/A  
FinCom Recommendation: N/A

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 5.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law **Article 12 Rural-Agricultural Preservation District**, Section 12.7 Use, Dimensional and Design Standards for Small-Area Cluster Development by inserting a comma after the word FRONTAGE, delete the word "and" thereafter and insert words, "and lot area" after the words "lot shape" and in Subsection 12.7.2 add the following sentence at the end of the subsection to read," the Planning Board may authorize a reduction in lot area or the placement of more than one building on a single lot in order to achieve the purposes of this by-law, provided that the SACD shall not have more than the number of dwelling units that could be built if the site were divided into individual house lots, each meeting the minimum lot area requirement of the Agricultural Residential District"; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: To reduce lot area and placement to better implement the bylaw, by request of the Planning Board.

Selectmen Recommendation: N/A  
FinCom Recommendation: N/A

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 6.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law, **Article 4 Village Residential District (VR)**, Section 4.6 Dimensional Setback and Intensity Regulations, Subsection 4.6.6 by changing the Maximum LOT COVERAGE from 50% to 40%; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: To strengthen the lot coverage maximum. By request of the Planning Board.

Selectmen Recommendation: N/A  
FinCom Recommendation: N/A

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 7.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law **Article 4 Village Residential District (VR)**, Section 4.4 Uses and Structures Permitted by Special Permit; **Article 5 Suburban Residential District (SR)** Section 5.4 Uses and Structures Permitted by Special Permit and **Article 6 Agricultural Residential District (AR)**, Section 6.4 Uses and Structures Permitted by Special Permit, by adding before the semi-colon and after the word "uses", the following; "except that where an accessory apartment or the conversion of a single-family to a multi-family dwelling is allowed by SPECIAL PERMIT, the Special Permit Granting Authority shall be the Board of Appeals in accordance with **Article 17 Accessory Dwelling Units and Conversion of Existing Single-Family Dwellings**"; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: To correct confusion regarding the Special Permit Granting Authority, for Accessory Units. By request of the Planning Board.

Selectmen Recommendation: N/A  
FinCom Recommendation: N/A

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 8.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac Zoning By-law, **Article 25 Appeals** Section 25.13 Standards for Variances; by adding the following "25.13.3 The Board of Appeals shall not approve any changes in the uses permitted in any zoning district or approve any modification of the requirements of the Zoning By-law that would have the effect of allowing the establishment of a use not otherwise permitted"; or take any other action relative thereto

Rationale: To disallow use variances. By request of the Planning Board.



Selectmen Recommendation: N/A  
FinCom Recommendation: N/A

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 9.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Official Zoning Map, as approved by the Town Meeting of May 3, 2004 and as on file at the office of the Town Clerk, by correcting an error in zoning district designation of parcel 43-1-9A and parcel 43-1-9B, (commonly known as Atwood TV Plaza), from the currently incorrect zoning district designation of **Village Residential** to the correct zoning district designation of **Rural Highway**; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: To correct an error in the zoning designation on the Zoning Map. By request of the Planning Board.

Selectmen Recommendation: N/A  
FinCom Recommendation: N/A

*Passed*

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## WARRANT FOR SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

6/19/2006

Essex, ss.

To one of the Constables of the Town of Merrimac:

GREETINGS, In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of Merrimac to meet in the Frederick N. Sweetsir School in Merrimac on June 19, 2006 at 7:30 PM to act on the following articles, namely:

**ARTICLE 1.** To see if the Town will vote to establish a "Mitigation Stabilization Fund" as provided by Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 40, Section 5B as amended, for the purpose of appropriation and segregation of mitigation funds received from property; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This article will allow the Town to accept money from developers to help lessen the impact of a proposed development.

Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0  
FinCom Recommendation: N/A

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 2.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$ 107,000 to the "Mitigation Stabilization Fund" for the Chellis Hill Project; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This article is to accept \$107,000 from Toll Brothers for the Chellis Hill Project, to help pay for the Sweetsir School Driveway and Sewer Project.

Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0  
FinCom Recommendation: N/A

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 3.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$ 107,000 from the "Mitigation Stabilization Fund" from the Chellis Hill Project and use said funds for the Sweetsir School Driveway and Sewer Project; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This article will allow the funds from Toll Brothers to be used to help pay for the Sweetsir School Driveway and Sewer Project.

Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0  
FinCom Recommendation: N/A

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 4.** To see if the Town will vote to accept Skunk Road as a Town approved road; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This article will allow the Town apply for Chapter 90 Funds to make the necessary repairs to Skunk Road. Due to the closure of River Road, this road needs to be repaired to accommodate the increased traffic flow.

Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0  
FinCom Recommendation: N/A

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 5.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$60,000 from the Stabilization Fund for the repair of Skunk Road; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This article will allow the Town to appropriate \$60,000 from the Stabilization to make the necessary repairs to Skunk Road.

Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0  
FinCom Recommendation: N/A

*Passed to table this Article*

**WARRANT FOR SPECIAL TOWN MEETING**  
9/18/2006

Essex, ss.

To one of the Constables of the Town of Merrimac:

GREETINGS, In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of Merrimac to meet in the Frederick N. Sweetsir School in Merrimac on September 18, 2006 at 7:30 PM to act on the following articles, namely:

**ARTICLE 1.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds a sum of money in the amount of \$1,000 to increase Line Item #88, Emergency Management Expense of Article 1, FY2007 Annual Town Meeting; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This is to correct a typographical error in the omnibus. This \$1,000 was included in the presentation to both the Finance Committee and the Selectmen, but was omitted in error on the final version of the omnibus. Per request of the Finance Director.

Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0  
FinCom Recommendation:

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 2.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from various line items in Article 1, FY2007 Annual Town Meeting, as follows:

Line #	Description	Adopted Amount	Transfer	Revised Adopted Amount
42	Town Administrators Salary	\$ 14,941	\$ (4,941)	\$ 10,000
50	Accounting Clerk Salary	\$ 10,327	\$ 4,941	\$ 15,268

; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This is to allow, in part, for the reorganization of the Finance Department. The plan is to hire a full-time Assistant to the Finance Director for 35 hours per week, with approval to work up to 40 hours if needed. This person would work for the Finance Director, Tax Collector and Accountant, and be trained in all areas. This person



would handle the day to day treasury functions for the Finance Director, assist the Town Accountant as needed, and provide office coverage and assistance as needed for the Tax Collector. This position would require a budget for the remainder of FY2007 of \$26,325, the majority of this funding coming from the budget line items already approved for various assistants within the Finance Department, however the additional \$4,941 would be needed from the Town Administrator's line item to fully fund the position for FY2007. Per request of the Finance Director.

**Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0**

**FinCom Recommendation:**

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 3.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds a sum of money in the amount of \$81,100, for the following specific purpose outlined below; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This article allows the Town to appropriate funds from Stabilization to various one-time expenses within the Town budget. These items were tabled at the Annual Town Meeting, with the understanding that they would be brought up again at the Fall Town Meeting, when the Town would have a better estimate of the Town's financial status.

- a. \$10,600 for the purchase of a Pitney Bowes D1350 Folder/Inserter Machine, for use in the Tax Collector's and Town Clerk's Offices.

**Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0**

**FinCom Recommendation:**

- b. \$20,000 for the repair of the stonewall at the Church Street Cemetery.

**Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0**

**FinCom Recommendation:**

- c. \$4,500 to fix drainage problems at the Donaghue Schools.

**Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0**

**FinCom Recommendation:**

- d. \$34,000 for the purchase of a new Police Cruiser for the Police Department.

**Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0**

**FinCom Recommendation:**

- e. \$12,000 for the driveway repairs at the Senior Center.

**Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0**

**FinCom Recommendation:**

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 4.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available Overlay Reserves the amount of \$4,522.32 to FY2006 Overlay Account for abatement; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This will allow the assessors to use funds from the Overlay Reserves Account to eliminate the deficit in the FY2006 abatement account. Per request of the Board of Assessors.

**Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0**

**FinCom Recommendation:**

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 5.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money in the amount of \$2,500 to fund the position of a Municipal Hearing Officer for FY2007; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: MGL Chapter 148A, effective March 1, 2005, authorizes the issuance of civil citations (tickets) for violations of the State Fire or Building code. The intent is to speed up and streamline the code enforcement process within municipalities, however criminal complaints for violations may still be sought. This article is needed to fund the position of Municipal Hearing Officer, necessary to hear local appeals. Fines collected for local violations would remain with the issuing municipality for future fire/building public safety training. Per request of Inspectional Services and the Fire Department.

**Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0**

**FinCom Recommendation:**

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 6.** To see if the Town will vote to reduce the amount raised and appropriated in Article 1, FY2007 Annual Town Meeting, in the amount of \$123,030 as follows:

Line #	Description	Adopted Amount	Reduction	Revised Adopted Amount	Betterment
2	River Road SRF (FY20) Principal	\$ 4,502	\$ (4,502)	\$ 0	River Rd.
3	Municipal Purpose - \$1.91M (FY20) Principal	\$ 85,000	\$ (5,000)	\$ 80,000	Belmore Rd.
5	Municipal Purpose - \$310K (FY11) Principal	\$ 20,000	\$ (15,000)	\$ 5,000	Red Oak
6	Municipal Purpose - \$356K (FY12) Principal	\$ 50,000	\$ (15,000)	\$ 35,000	Church/Harriman
7	Municipal Purpose - \$7.77M (FY23) Principal	\$ 565,000	\$ (5,000)	\$ 560,000	Church/Fowler
8	Municipal Purpose - \$4.231M (FY24) Principal	\$ 125,000	\$ (5,000)	\$ 120,000	Church/Fowler/Red Oaks
9	Municipal Purpose - \$405K (FY09) Principal	\$ 80,000	\$ (50,000)	\$ 30,000	Church/Burnside
<b>Total Principal Reductions</b>			<b>\$ ( 99,502)</b>		
12	River Road SRF (FY20) Interest	\$ 1,538	\$ (1,538)	\$ 0	River Rd.
13	Municipal Purpose - \$1.91M (FY20) Interest	\$ 48,321	\$ (1,937)	\$ 46,384	Belmore Rd.
15	Municipal Purpose - \$310K (FY11) Interest	\$ 5,610	\$ (4,208)	\$ 1,403	Red Oak
16	Municipal Purpose - \$356K (FY12) Interest	\$ 4,738	\$ (3,411)	\$ 1,327	Church/Harriman
17	Municipal Purpose - \$7.77M (FY23) Interest	\$ 197,204	\$ (3,359)	\$ 193,845	Church/Fowler
18	Municipal Purpose - \$4.231M (FY24) Interest	\$ 84,200	\$ (3,450)	\$ 80,750	Church/Fowler/Red Oaks
19	Municipal Purpose - \$405K (FY09) Interest	\$ 9,000	\$ (5,625)	\$ 3,375	Church/Burnside
<b>Total Interest Reductions</b>			<b>\$ (23,528)</b>		
<b>Total Reductions for Betterments</b>			<b>\$ (123,030)</b>		

to properly account for Sewer Betterment Debt Service into the Wastewater Department Enterprise Fund; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This article is needed to move the Debt Service for Sewer Betterments from the Omnibus to the Wastewater Department Enterprise Fund, per the guidelines established by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue. Per request of the Finance Director.

**Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0**

**FinCom Recommendation:**

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 7.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money in the amount of \$80,000 to fund the Wastewater Betterment Receipts Reserved Account, to properly account for revenue received for Wastewater Betterments prior to FY2007; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This article is needed to fund the Wastewater Betterment Receipts Reserved Account. The amount was determined to have been collected in previous years, and should have been reserved in an account for Wastewater Betterments, but was not done. There is a remaining balance of \$20,000 which will be funded in FY2008. Per request of the Finance Director.

**Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0**

**FinCom Recommendation:**

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 8.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money in the amount of \$123,030 for the Wastewater Department Enterprise Fund, for Debt Service, of that amount, \$45,000 will be raised from the Wastewater Departmental Revenue, and \$78,030 will be appropriated from the Wastewater Betterment Receipts Reserved Account; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This article is needed to give the Wastewater Department the authority to pay the debt, and use the money received from Sewer Betterments and money from the Wastewater Betterment Receipts Reserved Account for



Sewer Betterments, to pay for the debt service. Per the request of the Finance Director.

**Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0**

**FinCom Recommendation:**

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 9.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money in the amount of \$165,000 for additional funds for sewer work and a new driveway to alleviate parking problems at the Sweetsir School; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This article is needed to go forward with the proposed sewer and driveway project at the Sweetsir School. The Town had anticipated additional funding from Toll Brothers; however due to delays in the project, the funding has also been delayed. In order to proceed with the project, the Town will need to borrow the additional funds for this project. This will allow the Town to complete the work, and if the anticipated \$107,000 is received prior to the Town going out to bond, an article will be placed on the Spring Town Meeting to rescind the amount received from Toll Brothers. Per the request of the Board of Selectmen.

**Selectmen Recommendation: 2-0-0**

**FinCom Recommendation:**

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 10.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money in the amount of \$8,250 for consulting services and research necessary to amend the Zoning By-Law and /or the Subdivision Rules and Regulations for the inclusion of a Low Impact Development (LID) Zoning Regulation; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This article is needed to allow the Planning Board ample time to present the proposed Low Impact Development Zoning By-Law change to the Annual Town Meeting in May. This change could not be placed on that warrant without the services requested in this article, and non-action could result in this amendment not being addressed until the fall of 2007. Per the request of the Planning Board.

**Selectmen Recommendation: 2-1-0**

**FinCom Recommendation:**

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 11.** To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of Chapter 79 of the Acts of 2006, which provides, with certain conditions, for the continuing participation of Planning Board Members, Zoning Board of Appeals Members, or Conservation Commissioners in the hearing process, while being absent from one (1) session of that hearing; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This article deals with the adoption of Chapter 79 of the Acts of 2006. This portion of state law allows for the absence of a board member from one (1) session of a public hearing to continue in the permitting process. The adoption of this chapter is requested as soon as possible because the board currently has several applications for special permits to be heard in the near future. Per the request of the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals and the Conservation Commission.

**Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0**

**FinCom Recommendation: N/A**

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 12.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Personnel By-Law of the Town of Merrimac, by the addition of the following: Harassment Policy (Exhibit A), Drug-Free Workplace Policy (Exhibit B) and Drug Testing Policy (Exhibit C); or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: This article will update the Town's Personnel By-Law by adding the three policies listed above. On the recommendation of the Town's Worker's Compensation carrier, these policies should be implemented to clearly define the Town's position, and help to reduce the potential damages the Town could face. Per request of the Board of Selectmen.

**Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0**

**FinCom Recommendation: N/A**

*Passed*

**ARTICLE 13.** To see if the Town will vote to accept the following roads as Town approved roads; or take any other action relative thereto.

Alnette Road, Bancroft Lane, Brandy Brow Road, Brush Hill Road, Burnside Lane, Colgan Road, Dunvegan Drive, Fairfield Avenue, Forest Street, Glenn Road, Greenleaf Circle, Lancaster Court, Littles Court, Locust Grove Road, Mechanics Street, Old Bear Hill Road, Orchard Street Extension, Pinehurst Street, Pleasant Street, Tannery Lane, Valley Street, Wallace Way, West Shore Road and Whittier Drive.

Rationale: This article will allow the Town to accept these roads as Town approved roads. These roads have been identified by the Highway Supervisor as roads that are maintained by the Town, but are not approved. The Town's Chapter 90 Funds are based on the total miles of approved roads in town. Per the request of the Highway Department.

**Selectmen Recommendation: 2-0-0**

**FinCom Recommendation: N/A**

*Passed*



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